JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 255. | SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1911. | ONE PENNY.

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

"JOHN BULL'S" Companion Publications.

"MRS. BULL"

A LIVE PAPER FOR LIVE WOMEN.

Published Every Tuesday,

ONE PENNY.

"LOTINGA'S WEEKLY"

A REAL PICTORIAL SPORTING JOURNAL.

Published Every Wednesday.

ONE PENNY.

Every Reader of "John Bull" is requested to also take these journals, which will help to make his week's reading complete—for all branches of the family.

FURNITURE, SECOND-HAND.

- PRIVATE SALE.

The NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET FURNITURE and ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.)

will SELL the following elegant MODERN and ANTIQUE FURNITURE, just removed from Walmer Place, St. Marylebone, Taunton Road, Lee, Hanover Square, the contents of 50 rooms. Any article can be stored free for 12 months, and can be purchased separately and delivered in town or country free of all charge. Good opportunity for dealers, boarding-house keepers, connoisseurs, and those requiring good second-hand furniture, at less than one-fourth its value.

THE DRAWING-ROOMS

furniture, which is almost new, comprises, amongst other things, a French gilt Louis XIV. drawing-room suite, upholstered in silk, designed by Monsieurs Watteau, of Paris, worth 80gs., accept 20gs.; a unique satin-wood drawing-room set, comprising cabinet with drawers enclosed, centre table, overmantel, Empire settee, two lounge chairs and six occasional chairs, all upholstered in French silk, accept 23gs., worth treble; Chippendale design drawing-room suite, 10gs.; also a Sheraton design set, 12gs.; two Chesterfields, upholstered in a fine art tapestry, convertible ends, one 40s. and the other 60s.; 5ft. stuffover settee, with rounded ends, upholstered in flowered silk, on turned gilt legs and castors, 6gs.; six divan club easy chairs, 25s. each; ten pretty and exquisite design occasional drawing-room chairs, 6s. each; very fine old Dutch inlaid cabinet; two elegant Vernis Martin cabinets; two buhl cabinets (fully inlaid), French writing bureau and a magnificent specimen cabinet, fitted with glass doors; grand piano by Broadwood, 15gs.; also grand piano by Collard and Collard, 12gs.; a magnificent instrument by Gustave Richter, £14, and a fine tone piano, £10; grand piano by C. Bechstein—no offer refused if reasonable; a brilliant tone, full compass, iron frame, trichord, boudoir grand piano-forte, in rosewood case, on fluted legs, by Steinway and Sons, No. 74,808; American organ; piano-player, by Hardman.

40 BEDROOMS COMPLETE.

Very massive square pillar all-brass bedstead, full-size, pure hair mattress, &c., from 60s.; an Italian square brass tube bedstead, 8gns.; black and brass bedstead, 30s.; 10 most massive and elaborate bedroom suites in Heppelwhite, Queen Anne, Chippendale, Sheraton, ash, white enamel, oak, &c., from 70s. each; 5ft. mahogany kneehole dressing-table, fitted with swing mirror, 30 by 21, on pedestal supports, 12gs.; washstand en suite, with vein marble table top and tile back, £4 15s.; towel rail, en suite, 15s. three occasional chairs en suite, 45s.; 6ft. mahogany wardrobe, fitted rail 10 pegs, bonnet drawer, two sliding trays, five long and two short drawers, silvered glass centre, two panel doors, 9gs.; 4ft. Spanish mahogany chest of four long drawers, shaped top, with column supports, on plinth, £3 10s.; mahogany shaving stand, with circular adjustable mirror, 25s.; 3ft. 6in. birch washstand, 10s.; Sheraton design bedroom suite, 6gns.; large size fully inlaid suite, 10gs.; and one 15gs.; three old antique chests, two tallboy chests, two very fine satinwood bedroom suites, inlaid with king-wood, &c., worth 200gs.; accept 110gs.; 6ft. Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25gs., worth 60gs.; mahogany cheval glass, 5gs.; 3ft. mahogany robe, two bedside tables, &c.

DINING-ROOMS, SMOKE-ROOMS, LOUNGES, &c.

An elaborate carved oak dining-room set, consisting of two Elizabethan design carved oak chairs, six small chairs to match, most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard, with bevelled plate-glass back, extending dining table, all to match, six very fine specimens of reproductions of Chippendale chairs upholstered in crimson leather; also Sheraton design set, Heppelwhite set, a very fine Queen Anne dining-room set, 8gs.; mahogany-frame high-back open arm-chair upholstered in crimson leather, 3gs.; stuffover couch upholstered in crimson morocco, 4gs.; mahogany-frame open arm-chair in morocco, £2 15s.; six walnut-frame dining chairs, seats upholstered en suite, 6gs.; two oak bookcases, a morning-room set in solid oak, comprising oak Welsh dresser, with copper fitments, and a William and Mary design suite upholstered in red leather, table, over-mantel, all to match, accept 13gs.; 6ft. 6in. oak sideboard, 4ft. chiffonnière, 5ft. walnut dining table, seven leaves, 4ft. 6in. grained walnut writing table, ormolu clock, a real Chippendale corner cupboard, three dining tables, opening to 16ft. from 60s.; mahogany dinner wagon, a convertible billiard-dining table with balls, cues, &c.; an old oak coffer; two grand-father's clocks chiming on tubes; the garniture de cheminée, of Egyptian design, in rough marble and ormolu, comprising clock in sarcophagus case, with female bust and pair of vase-shaped two-light candelabra with bird supports and marble base, £5 5s.; morocco Chesterfield and two club easys to match; Turkey and Persian carpets, fine specimens, also Axminster, Brussels, and other carpets, from 20s. each; about 10 pairs very fine silk curtains and mantel drapery to match; a rare collection of china, including a very fine Wedgwood dessert service; Dresden coffee set, Sevres Dresden, and other china; collection of fine old silver and Sheffield plate in Georgian and other designs; canteen of silver; 100 pieces, 7gs.; two very fine sets of English cut table glass; large quantity of bed and table linen, curtains, etc.; some rare oil and water-colour paintings and engravings; several pieces of plate by Mappin and Webb; two plated candelabras and three pairs candlesticks; some very fine and unique bear and tiger skins mounted as rugs, full heads; 10 cases of wines, assorted; very fine cigar cabinet; Parisian victoria, miniature brougham, and two motor-cars; two wine bins, etc. All can be seen, and are being sold without any reserve, every day from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven, at

THE NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET
FURNITURE AND ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.),
AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W. One door from Oxford Street, three minutes from Tottenham Court Road and Regent Street, and adjoining all the principal Tubes. Tele. 1,307, Central. £10,000 worth of genuine second-hand furniture always on view. Second-hand furniture bought to any extent.

The LARGEST STOCK of GENUINE SECOND-HAND ANTIQUE and MODERN FURNITURE in ENGLAND. WE HAVE ALWAYS on HAND £150,000 WORTH of GOOD and SUPERIOR SECOND-HAND FURNITURE ALWAYS to be DISPOSED OF. CATALOGUES NOW READY. FULL PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION.

A.B.C. GUIDE TO STOCK EXCHANGE.
(20th Edition.)

Stock Exchange Operations thoroughly explained, also Call Options. How to open an account with limited risk. How to avoid Broker's Commissions. Contains Highest and Lowest Sales for last 15 years. Gratis from Publishers—

FARROW, GRAHAM & CO.,
(Successors to Freeborn, Franklin & Co. Established 1899)
1, Bank Street, Royal Exchange, Manchester.

GRESHAM LIFE OFFICE.

Founded 1848. Assets £18,300,000.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE POLICIES WITH CESSATION OF PREMIUMS DURING INCAPACITY

(TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT)
VERY MODERATE PREMIUMS.

Head Office:
ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.

JAMES H. SCOTT, *General Manager.*

The Gresham Life Assurance Society, Limited.

What is Your Number?

Our Weekly Ballot for 50 Helpers at Two Guineas Apiece.

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL of specified date, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all work done.

The following claims have been received for our issues of February 18th and March 11th:—

R. JACOBS, 83, Glengall Road, Cubitt Town, E. No. 27,603. February 18th.

O. F. VERNON, c/o P.C. Telephone Works, Silk Street, Salford. No. 72,946. March 11th.

JOHN TINLING (Bandsman). 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Married Quarters, Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow. No. 409,413. March 11th.

WM. LINDSEY, 81, Abbey Street, Bermondsey, S.E. No. 33,055. March 11th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 25th:—

873	150038	238439	353557	492155
25305	152991	240063	370307	508097
35920	169878	241784	388515	537549
42478	180731	247486	389336	538935
67868	187761	270016	406948	540559
74458	190758	278722	429883	545703
104146	196767	280165	447273	553342
112296	202092	302502	451045	576214
128260	208318	322966	471124	633571
139046	234110	349724	486872	637026

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED MAY 20TH (PUBLISHED MAY 18TH).

The John Bull League.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. X. No. 255. Saturday, April 22nd, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.

All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO ADVERTISERS.

All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom.		Foreign and Colonial.	
1 year	6s. 6d.	1 year	8s. 8d.
6 months	3s. 3d.	6 months	4s. 4d.
3 months	1s. 8d.	3 months	2s. 2d.

Money Orders, etc., to be made payable to Odhams Limited, and forwarded to Publishing Department, Odhams Limited.

TO READERS ABROAD.

JOHN BULL *is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the Continent as follows:—Paris, at the Railway Stations—Nord, Ouest, P.L.M., Orleans, l'Est; the principal Kiosques on the Boulevards, etc.; Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshop, 248, rue de Rivoli; Libraries—Timotei, rue Castiglione; Brentano's, Avenue de l'Opera; Byron, rue Castiglione; Galignani, 224, rue de Rivoli; Anglaise, Avenue Victor Hugo; Charruet, rue d'Isty; Lebeau, Avenue Kleber; F. Tennant Pain, 18, rue Favart, Wholesale and Continental Representative. Railway Bookstalls and principal Libraries at Marseilles, Hyeres, Cannes, St. Raphael, Nice, Beaulieu, Monaco, Monte Carlo, Mentone. It is also obtainable through Messrs. Gordon & Gotch's Agencies in the Colonies.*

The John Bull League.

SHEFFIELD AND ROTHERHAM BRANCH.

A SMOKING CONCERT AND DANCE
WILL BE HELD AT
CAMBRIDGE HALL, SHEFFIELD,
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), APRIL 20th,
Concert 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dancing 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

A GRAND WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD AT THE
LIVERPOOL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HARDMAN STREET,
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), APRIL 20th,
at 7.30 p.m. prompt.
TWENTY PRIZES.

Tickets (price 1s. 6d., including refreshments) can be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. G. S. Haines, of 48, Woodlands Road, Aigburth, or at the doors.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD BRANCH.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD IN THE
MARBLE HALL, ALBION HOTEL, PICCADILLY,
FRIDAY, APRIL 28th, at 7.30 p.m.
Chairman . . Councillor H. ROSS CLYNE.
FIRST CLASS ARTISTES.
Admission Free.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

We are glad to hear better accounts of the Chancellor's health. But he must be careful.

WIPING OUT THE PRIVATE MEMBER.

When, at the beginning of the Session, the Government took away the Private Members' days "till Easter," we ventured to suggest that, with their appetites whetted, they would swoop down upon them again after Whitsun. The Prime Minister, whilst admitting the abstract possibility of our prediction, discounted its probability. So we waited—and have seen!

THE PARLIAMENT BILL.

We have now practically finished with the first part of the Bill—that which abolishes the Lords' Veto over Finance. With this provision, subject to proper safeguards against "tacking," we have always been in hearty accord; although, as we suggested the other day, the claim of the House of Commons to supreme control over the public purse is a little incongruous whilst it votes fifty millions a year without any kind of discussion or examination. As regards the rest of the Bill—that is a horse of a different colour.

THE MORRISON REPRIEVE.

In advising His Majesty to reprieve Stinie Morrison, Mr. Churchill—not for the first time—has correctly interpreted public sentiment. And in matters of this kind that is the only thing which counts. We may now learn more about the crime.

GOOD OLD GRANTHAM!

We do not often go out of our way to throw bouquets at Mr. Justice Grantham, but now and then he really does "touch the spot." He did so, for instance, the other day when, in the course of an action against an Insurance Company, he made an oblique reference to our "Prudential" revelations, and expressed the view that "the palatial buildings" of some of the companies are paid for by the money of the poor. Perhaps he will also glance, on his way to the Courts, at the "palatial buildings" of some of our Banks—and then "say a few words" about Unclaimed Balances!

THE ARCHER-SHEE CASE.

There is sound sense in this suggestion, from one of our readers:—"I am sure you feel as pleased as I do that the first Lord of the Admiralty has at last been obliged to say openly in the House that he regrets the trouble, etc., father and son Archer-Shee have had to go through, etc.; but now comes the question—Are the authorities not troubling to find out *who* was the forger and thief? Will you help to put them on to do this one more duty?" We think, however, we can forecast the official answer—Let sleeping dogs lie!

FURNITURE, SECOND-HAND.

- - - - - - - - - PRIVATE SALE.

The NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET FURNITURE and ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.)

will SELL the following elegant MODERN and ANTIQUE FURNITURE, just removed from Walmer Place, St. Marylebone, Taunton Road, Lee, Hanover Square, the contents of 50 rooms. Any article can be stored free for 12 months, and can be purchased separately and delivered in town or country free of all charge. Good opportunity for dealers, boarding-house keepers, connoisseurs, and those requiring good second-hand furniture, at less than one-fourth its value.

THE DRAWING-ROOMS

furniture, which is almost new, comprises, amongst other things, a French gilt Louis XIV. drawing-room suite, upholstered in silk, designed by Monsieurs Watteau, of Paris, worth 80gs., accept 20gs.; a unique satin-wood drawing-room set, comprising cabinet with drawers enclosed, centre table, overmantel, Empire settee, two lounge chairs and six occasional chairs, all upholstered in French silk, accept 25gs., worth treble; Chippendale design drawing-room suite, 10gs.; also a Sheraton design set, 12gs.; two Chesterfields, upholstered in a fine art tapestry, convertible ends, one 40s. and the other 60s.; 5ft. stuffover settee, with rounded ends, upholstered in flowered silk, on turned gilt legs and castors, 6gs.; six divan club easy chairs, 25s. each; ten pretty and exquisite design occasional drawing-room chairs, 6s. each; very fine old Dutch inlaid cabinet; two elegant Vernis Martin cabinets; two buhl cabinets (fully inlaid), French writing bureau and a magnificent specimen cabinet, fitted with glass doors; grand piano by Broadwood, 15gs.; also grand piano by Collard and Collard, 12gs.; a magnificent instrument by Gustave Richter, £14, and a fine tone piano, £10; grand piano by C. Bechstein—no offer refused if reasonable; a brilliant tone, full compass, iron frame, trichord, boudoir grand piano-forte, in rosewood case, on fluted legs, by Steinway and Sons, No. 74,808; American organ; piano-player, by Hardman.

40 BEDROOMS COMPLETE.

Very massive square pillar all-brass bedstead, full-size, pure hair mattress, &c., from 60s.; an Italian square brass tube bedstead, 8gns.; black and brass bedstead, 30s.; 10 most massive and elaborate bedroom suites in Heppelwhite, Queen Anne, Chippendale, Sheraton, ash, white enamel, oak, &c., from 70s. each; 5ft. mahogany kneehole dressing-table, fitted with swing mirror, 30 by 21, on pedestal supports, 12gs.; washstand en suite, with vein marble table top and tile back, £4 15s.; towel rail, en suite, 15s. three occasional chairs en suite, 45s.; 6ft. mahogany wardrobe, fitted rail 10 pegs, bonnet drawer, two sliding trays, five long and two short drawers, silvered glass centre, two panel doors, 9gs.; 4ft. Spanish mahogany chest of four long drawers, shaped top, with column supports, on plinth, £3 10s.; mahogany shaving stand, with circular adjustable mirror, 25s.; 3ft. 6in. birch washstand, 10s.; Sheraton design bedroom suite, 6gns.; large size fully inlaid suite, 10gs.; and one 15gs.; three old antique chests, two tallboy chests, two very fine satinwood bedroom suites, inlaid with king-wood, &c., worth 200gs.; accept 110gs.; 6ft. Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25gs., worth 60gs.; mahogany cheval glass, 5gs.; 3ft. mahogany robe, two bedside tables, &c.

DINING-ROOMS, SMOKE-ROOMS, LOUNGES, &c.

An elaborate carved oak dining-room set, consisting of two Elizabethan design carved oak chairs, six small chairs to match, most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard, with bevelled plate-glass back, extending dining table, all to match, six very fine specimens of reproductions of Chippendale chairs upholstered in crimson leather; also Sheraton design set, Heppelwhite set, a very fine Queen Anne dining-room set, 8gs.; mahogany-frame high-back open arm-chair upholstered in crimson leather, 3gs.; stuffover couch upholstered in crimson morocco, 4gs.; mahogany-frame open arm-chair in morocco, £2 15s.; six walnut-frame dining chairs, seats upholstered en suite, 6gs.; two oak bookcases, a morning-room set in solid oak, comprising oak Welsh dresser, with copper fitments, and a William and Mary design suite upholstered in red leather, table, over-mantel, all to match, accept 13gs.; 6ft. 6in. oak sideboard, 4ft. chiffonnière, 5ft. walnut dining table, seven leaves, 4ft. 6in. grained walnut writing table, ormolu clock, a real Chippendale corner cupboard, three dining tables, opening to 16ft. from 60s.; mahogany dinner wagon, a convertible billiard-dining table with balls, cues, &c.; an old oak coffer; two grand-father's clocks chiming on tubes; the garniture de cheminée, of Egyptian design, in rough marble and ormolu, comprising clock in sarcophagus case, with female bust and pair of vase-shaped two-light candelabra with bird supports and marble base, £5 5s.; morocco Chesterfield and two club easys to match; Turkey and Persian carpets, fine specimens, also Axminster, Brussels, and other carpets, from 20s. each; about 10 pairs very fine silk curtains and mantel drapery to match; a rare collection of china, including a very fine Wedgwood dessert service; Dresden coffee set, Sevres Dresden, and other china; collection of fine old silver and Sheffield plate in Georgian and other designs; canteen of silver; 100 pieces, 7gs.; two very fine sets of English cut table glass; large quantity of bed and table linen, curtains, etc.; some rare oil and water-colour paintings and engravings; several pieces of plate by Mappin and Webb; two plated candelabras and three pairs candlesticks; some very fine and unique bear and tiger skins mounted as rugs, full heads; 10 cases of wines, assorted; very fine cigar cabinet; Parisian victoria, miniature brougham, and two motor-cars; two wine bins, etc. All can be seen, and are being sold without any reserve, every day from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven, at

THE NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET
FURNITURE AND ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.),
AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W. One door from Oxford Street, three minutes from Tottenham Court Road and Regent Street, and adjoining all the principal Tubes. Tele. 1,307, Central. £10,000 worth of genuine second-hand furniture always on view. Second-hand furniture bought to any extent.

The LARGEST STOCK of GENUINE SECOND-HAND ANTIQUE and MODERN FURNITURE in ENGLAND. WE HAVE ALWAYS on HAND £150,000 WORTH of GOOD and SUPERIOR SECOND-HAND FURNITURE ALWAYS to be DISPOSED OF. CATALOGUES NOW READY. FULL PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION.

A.B.C. GUIDE TO STOCK EXCHANGE.

(25th Edition.)

Stock Exchange Operations thoroughly explained, also Call Options. How to open an account with limited risk. How to avoid Broker's Commissions. Contains Highest and Lowest Sales for last 15 years. Gratis from Publishers—

FABROW, GRAHAM & CO.,

(Successors to Freeborn, Franklin & Co. Established 1899)
1, Bank Street, Royal Exchange, Manchester.

GRESHAM LIFE OFFICE.

Founded 1848. Assets £19,000,000.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE POLICIES WITH CESSATION OF PREMIUMS DURING INCAPACITY

(TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT)

VERY MODERATE PREMIUMS.

Head Office:

ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.

JAMES H. SCOTT, *General Manager.*

The Gresham Life Assurance Society, Limited.

What is Your Number?

Our Weekly Ballot for 50 Helpers at Two Guineas Apiece.

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL of specified date, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all work done.

The following claims have been received for our issues of February 18th and March 11th:—

R. JACOBS, 83, Glengall Road, Cubitt Town, E. No. 627,663. February 18th.

O. F. VERNON, c/o P.C. Telephone Works, Silk Street, Salford. No. 72,946. March 11th.

JOHN TINLING (Bandsman). 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Married Quarters, Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow. No. 469,463. March 11th.

WM. LINDSEY, 81, Abbey Street, Bermondsey, S.E. No. 359,675. March 11th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 25th:—

873	156038	238439	353557	492153
25305	159991	240063	370307	508097
35920	160978	241784	388515	537549
42478	180731	247486	389336	538935
67868	187761	270016	406948	540559
74458	190758	278722	429883	545703
104146	196707	280165	447273	553342
112296	202092	302502	451045	576214
128260	206318	332966	471124	633571
139046	234110	349724	486872	637026

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED MAY 20TH (PUBLISHED MAY 18TH).

The John Bull League.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. X. No. 255. Saturday, April 22nd, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.
All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO ADVERTISERS.

All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom.		Foreign and Colonial.	
1 year	6s. 6d.	1 year	8s. 8d.
6 months	3s. 3d.	6 months	4s. 4d.
3 months	1s. 8d.	3 months	2s. 2d.

Money Orders, etc., to be made payable to Odhams Limited, and forwarded to Publishing Department, Odhams Limited,

TO READERS ABROAD.

JOHN BULL *is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the Continent as follows:—Paris, at the Railway Stations—Nord, Ouest, P.L.M., Orleans, l'Est; the principal Kiosques on the Boulevards, etc.; Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshop, 248, rue de Rivoli; Libraries—Timotei, rue Castiglione; Brentano's, Avenue de l'Opera; Byron, rue Castiglione; Galignani, 224, rue de Rivoli; Anglaise, Avenue Victor Hugo; Charruet, rue d'Isty; Lebeau, Avenue Kleber; F. Tennant Pain, 18, rue Favart, Wholesale and Continental Representative. Railway Bookstalls and principal Libraries at Marseilles, Hyeres, Cannes, St. Raphael, Nice, Beaulieu, Monaco, Monte Carlo, Mentone. It is also obtainable through Messrs. Gordon & Gotch's Agencies in the Colonies.*

The John Bull League.

SHEFFIELD AND ROTHERHAM BRANCH.

A SMOKING CONCERT AND DANCE
WILL BE HELD AT
CAMBRIDGE HALL, SHEFFIELD,
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), APRIL 20th.
Concert 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dancing 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

A GRAND WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD AT THE
LIVERPOOL ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HARDMAN STREET,
TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), APRIL 20th,
at 7.30 p.m. prompt.
TWENTY PRIZES.

Tickets (price 1s. 6d., including refreshments) can be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. G. S. Haines, of 48, Woodlands Road, Aigburth, or at the doors.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD BRANCH.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD IN THE
MARBLE HALL, ALBION HOTEL, PICCADILLY,
FRIDAY, APRIL 28th, at 7.30 p.m.
Chairman . . Councillor H. ROSS CLYNE.
FIRST CLASS ARTISTES.
Admission Free.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

We are glad to hear better accounts of the Chancellor's health. But he must be careful.

WIPING OUT THE PRIVATE MEMBER.

When, at the beginning of the Session, the Government took away the Private Members' days "till Easter," we ventured to suggest that, with their appetites whetted, they would swoop down upon them again after Whitsun. The Prime Minister, whilst admitting the abstract possibility of our prediction, discounted its probability. So we waited—and have seen!

THE PARLIAMENT BILL.

We have now practically finished with the first part of the Bill—that which abolishes the Lords' Veto over Finance. With this provision, subject to proper safeguards against "tacking," we have always been in hearty accord; although, as we suggested the other day, the claim of the House of Commons to supreme control over the public purse is a little incongruous whilst it votes fifty millions a year without any kind of discussion or examination. As regards the rest of the Bill—that is a horse of a different colour.

THE MORRISON REPRIEVE.

In advising His Majesty to reprieve Stinie Morrison, Mr. Churchill—not for the first time—has correctly interpreted public sentiment. And in matters of this kind that is the only thing which counts. We may now learn more about the crime.

GOOD OLD GRANTHAM!

We do not often go out of our way to throw bouquets at Mr. Justice Grantham, but now and then he really does "touch the spot." He did so, for instance, the other day when, in the course of an action against an Insurance Company, he made an oblique reference to our "Prudential" revelations, and expressed the view that "the palatial buildings" of some of the companies are paid for by the money of the poor. Perhaps he will also glance, on his way to the Courts, at the "palatial buildings" of some of our Banks—and then "say a few words" about Unclaimed Balances!

THE ARCHER-SHEE CASE.

There is sound sense in this suggestion, from one of our readers:—"I am sure you feel as pleased as I do that the first Lord of the Admiralty has at last been obliged to say openly in the House that he regrets the trouble, etc., father and son Archer-Shee have had to go through, etc.; but now comes the question—Are the authorities not troubling to find out *who* was the forger and thief? Will you help to put them on to do this one more duty?" We think, however, we can forecast the official answer—Let sleeping dogs lie!

The Veto at St. Albans.

Recently we had something to say concerning the manner in which the St. Albans Board of Guardians saw fit to appoint a local builder's clerk to be their Relieving Officer. They had advertised the vacancy, and eight candidates were summoned to a meeting of the Board; but all of them understood on arrival that the builder's clerk was to have the appointment, and that their being summoned was merely the rehearsal of a farce. At the last meeting of the Board the Chairman treated our comments with lofty and contemptuous scorning. "We take no notice of John Bull," said he. He and his colleagues will now have to take notice of John Burns, who, on our initiative, declined to sanction the appointment. "What does Mr. Burns say to the matter?" we asked. The Guardians have the answer.

Nine Times Insured.

Apropos of industrial insurance, the South Manchester Guardians have had an illuminating instance. An old woman inmate of the workhouse was lying dead, and though she had been insured nine times by different relatives to a total of £100, not one of them would pay a single penny towards her burial. We shall be glad to learn the name of the company or companies concerned.

The Pound of Flesh.

The Ongar Board of Guardians are not only going to have their pound of flesh out of the Woolmores, but all the blood they can get with it in the carving. When Mrs. Woolmore was, in a spirit of judicial ferocity, sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment for neglecting her children, to be subsequently released by the Home Secretary, the children became chargeable to the Ongar Guardians. Her husband was then and is now, earning about twelve shillings a week. He is trying to get another home together, but in the meantime £2 is owing the Guardians for maintenance, and on the motion of Mr. Waltham, seconded by the Rev. John Howard, they have decided to make him pay 5s. a week. "If he earns 12s. a week he can pay us 5s. a week," exclaimed Captain Wellesley at the meeting. If the captain was in the position of Woolmore, his view would probably be rather different. Surely the Guardians might have given the man a chance to turn round before they stuck in the knife!

Two Brutes; One a Dog.

At Horfield lives a dealer named Samuel Tidman. A few days ago, he bought a sheep dog at Patchway, tied it to the rear of his cart, and drove off. Near Filton Hill a cyclist noticed that the dog was being dragged along. Blood was found to be pouring from the dog's nostrils, its head was swollen, one of its toes was broken, its two front paws were bleeding, its hind legs were skinned. A number of previous complaints had been made about this man's conduct to animals, and he had been frequently warned. "Ten shillings and costs," said the Lawford Gate magistrates; and if he comes up again we suppose they will let him off for half price, *pour encourager les autres*.

Should Perjurers Combine?

Our Party politicians might well take a hint from Turkey, if there are to be any more election petitions. The pensioned ushers and other officials of the Constantinople law-courts have organised a "Self-help Society," whose business is to supply evidence on any subject for cash. Having studied the peculiarities of each judge, they can always adapt themselves to his requirements. This ought not to be difficult to do over here. Quite a small amount of training would enable any intelligent person to crack jokes which would be agreeable to one; to gratify the rustic prejudices of another; perhaps even to flatter the rugged vanity of a third. We mention no names.

Where Are the Nuisance Inspectors?

Evidence given at an Okehampton inquest on a fourteen months old baby, prompts us to ask the President of the Local Government Board, failing the local authorities, if he does not think it is about time to wake up the Nuisance Inspectors in those parts. The child had been overlaid in a bed in which the mother and the grandmother slept. Six people lived in the house, which is only suitable for two. There is but one room downstairs, one upstairs, and a wood shed completes the place; yet five people normally sleep in the one bedroom. This being Saturday night, only the mother and grandmother and child were in bed; the child dead by her 19 years old mother, while the grandfather was drunk downstairs. We wonder whether this is the only instance of overcrowding in Okehampton. The Town Council had better get to know, and act on their information. That they should have shut their eyes to the condition of things as prevailed in this particular house, seems to indicate a grave neglect of duty.

Cheap Trains and the Public Well-Being.

The action of the Railway and Canal Commissioners in refusing the application of the London County Council for workmen's tickets on the Loughton and Romford lines, is another instance of opposition to the public welfare, which shows the need for nationalising our railways and canals. At present the companies give every preference to the foreigner. It costs less to bring a ton of wheat from Chicago to London, than from Essex. We are constantly being advised to get back to the land, but the workman and family who could get a decent cottage with a garden out Loughton or Romford way for less rent than is paid for two or three rooms in a London slum, is condemned to live in squalor by order of the Railway and Canal Commissioners. Oh! for that Business Government!

Perfect Party-men.

The *Daily Graphic* is now among the prophets and prophesies as follows: "We find a sordid competition between the two Parties to enlist by doubtful methods the dishonest votes of men who are apparently willing, for a couple of shillings, to make any statement suggested to them, including the statement that they are themselves liars. The significant part of the business is that the agency of such men as these should be invoked to determine the true voice of the people in an ancient English borough." A bit long-winded, perhaps, but a useful further tribute to the Party system.

Poor Box Subsidizes Swindlers.

We sympathise with the poor carman's wife, who solved a puzzle in a Sunday paper and was informed by the London Fine Art Company, of Cornwallis Road, N., that she had been successful. The reward of her skill was that she had to spend 2s. 2d. on 24 worthless postcards, and 6s. 6d. on a chain and case for a watch which was bestowed upon her. The watch and chain turned out to be worth about 2s, together, and the case about 1½d. Her husband was out of work, and she had four children, one of whom died the other day, when she had nothing for the funeral. This little story reveals the class of victims who are preyed upon by scoundrels like those who call themselves the London Fine Art Company, and we do not grudge this particular dupe the assistance which she received from the poor box. But we hope that her case will not be regarded as a precedent, otherwise all the available funds in the various poor boxes will soon be exhausted, for the indirect benefit of harpies who ought long ago to have been sent to gaol.

A Counterfeit Conspirator.

The French have been lashing themselves into a state of needless alarm about Bernard Muimon, the adventurer who is accused of buying and disseminating State secrets. A friend of ours knew him very well in his special haunts, such as Bagdad and Constantinople, and describes him as an utterly futile conspirator, "the kind of gas-bag who proclaimed all his empirical schemes to casual acquaintances, a vain sentimentalist with a substratum of treachery." The Sultan Abdul Hamid fed him for years and overwhelmed him with kindness; then he ran about trying to sell fictitious memoirs and bogus diplomatic documents. If he is not sent to prison, he may do well to set up as a "Guide-interpreter" on the pavement outside the Grand Hotel in Paris. He is not really cut out for melodrama.

Magisterial Kindness.

Nothing gives us greater pleasure than to record those super-magisterial acts of kindness of which we do hear now and again. For instance, when a blind beggar was brought before the Feltham justices the other day, they discharged him and directed that he should be taken to the nearest eating-house to have a good meal. Hats off to them, gentlemen, please!

Oh, Tommy, Tommy Atkins!

There has just died in Brighton Workhouse an old soldier, 76 years of age, who wore the medals of Alma, Inkerman, Balaclava, and Sevastopol. He had been an inmate for some time, and before he went in, dragged out a miserable and precarious existence as a vendor of bootlaces. If we say anything about his country leaving him to die in the workhouse, we shall probably either be told it was his own fault, or that he could not easily have found a more comfortable place to die in; wherefore we pass no further remarks.

Coincidences at Cardiff.

At a meeting of the sub-committee of the Children's Homes Visiting Committee appointed by the Cardiff Board of Guardians, it has been decided that a certain renovating contract shall be given to Mr. Harmon Lewis. One peculiarity is that the father of Mr. Harmon Lewis, Mr. Edmund Lewis, is a Guardian, and was present at the meeting at which the contract was given to his son. A further peculiarity is that Mr. Edmund Lewis is himself a builder and contractor, and that Mr. Harmon Lewis is only 18 years of age, and has probably never owned a paintbrush, let alone a contractor's plant. Still, of course, he may be a natural genius at the work.

The Curate and the Scouts.

A Barnes curate has called upon the father of a boy scout and notified him that unless the boy is forthwith confirmed, he will have to resign from the local branch of Major-General Baden-Powell's great ecclesiastical organisation. At any rate, if it isn't an ecclesiastical organisation, the Major-General had better instruct this impertinent jackanapes of a curate to stick to his own job, and not interfere within the jurisdiction of an officer in command of His Majesty's forces. Good gracious, if this curate is not promptly sat upon there will be a Dissenting minister round at the house in half-an-hour, demanding that the young scout shall join his Band of Hope!

Astor's Risks.

The Observer and its Editor have been taken over by Mr. Astor, the Yankee millionaire. Mr. Garvin and his paper may now realise that Yankee dollars have their uses after all.

A Glasgow Evangel.

On the invitation of a rich teetotaler, a Mr. William Thompson, who, we understand, is greatly in demand for quickening the interest of flagging congregations, appeared at Cove, Dumbartonshire, to conduct a Mission. By way of spiritualising the children, Mr. Thompson brought a magic lantern and threw on the screen a number of pictures "illustrating the Cross, the mouth of hell, etc., relieved by snatches of song from the Pilgrim's Choruses, written by Mr. Thompson, price one penny, words only, and one shilling with music." The pictures over, the children had to sign a declaration ending thus: "Now, therefore, I shall never perish; and not only that, but I have everlasting life already." We say nothing about that; but some of the verses in Mr. Thompson's hymn-book—for instance:

> In the house and out of doors,
> Brushing boots and scrubbing floors,
> Washing, darning, ironing too,
> Sometimes making Irish stew.
> I'll do it all for Jesus,
> He's coming very soon—

are in need of instant expurgation, although Mr. Thompson does say in the preface that those who "have not found Jesus cannot sing these sweet choruses with a very happy heart." It cannot be good for children that religion should be turned into a comic song.

The Passing of the Birch.

The Secretary of the Humanitarian League is rejoicing over the abolition of the birch at Eton. He is evidently not in agreement with the late King Solomon. We content ourselves with pointing out that this discontinuance of an ancient usage removes the only class distinction which was not in favour of the rich. While a duke's son could be thoroughly well flogged for a slight offence, the costermonger's son would bring an action for assault if a teacher birched him for neglecting his lessons. Of course, on the other hand, magistrates order flogging for poor boys, but not for those who are blessed, or cursed, with rich parents.

The Investiture and the Church.

Once again we have occasion to note how the religious sects love one another! Here we have the *Church Times* "grousing" because the Archbishop of Canterbury has been "weak" enough to come to an arrangement with the Rev. Evan Jones, "under which the religious part of the ceremony of the Prince of Wales's Investiture shall be carried out jointly by the Bishop of the diocese and a representative of the Protestant Dissenters." Our hierarchical contemporary proceeds to say, "The scheme strikes us as objectionable in every way. In the first place, of course, because it is a virtual admission of the assertion that the Church is but one of several competing sects." What on earth is it else, we would like to know? It is a pity that the young Prince cannot be allowed to go through his investiture without all this unseemly squabbling between the sects. If he is the sort of lad we imagine him to be, he will be saying to himself, "A plague on both your—churches."

Complementary Colours?

From the Births column of the *Daily Telegraph* of April 7th:—

> Blue.—On April 5th, 1911, at 52, The Pryors, Hampstead, N.W., to Mr. and Mrs. Angus Blue—a son.
>
> Green.—On April 5th, at The Cottage, Putney Heath, the wife of Claud Green, of a daughter.

Perhaps one of these days the above colours may be blended, thus also uniting London's Northern and Southern heaths.

Insecurity of Channel Services.

We are keeping our eye on some of the Channel steamers. Some of the London and South-Western Railway Company's boats which ply between Southampton and the Channel Islands are in a terrible state, and we should not be surprised to hear of a disaster any stormy day. The *Alberta* and *Lydia*, for instance, are licensed to carry from seven to eight hundred passengers and crew, but they are only provided with six small lifeboats. The Great Western Railway Company's boats from Weymouth are not a whit better, and we should be very sorry to travel by the *Ibex*, *Reindeer* or *Roebuck* in a gale. Is it nobody's business to safeguard the lives of tourists who go down to the sea in ships? Must we wait for inspection and reform until there has been a great disaster involving huge loss of life?

Wheel and Woe.

A week or two ago the Birkenhead Corporation accidentally permitted one of their tramcars to get loose and run into a ratepayer's garden. Now they refuse to pay for the damaged plants, on the ground that the loss is trivial. This seems an excellent reason why they should pay up. If the plants had got loose and collided with the tramcar and damaged the paint, the Corporation would have put up the Town Clerk to explain the legal position to the erring ratepayer; the petty cash department would have received instructions to lay in large supplies of penny stamps for the correspondence; inspectors would have been told off to estimate the cost of replacing the damaged paint; the Town Clerk would eventually have issued a writ; Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., Sir Edward Carson, K.C., Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., Mr. Leslie Scott, K.C., and an array of juniors would have been briefed to argue the point in the King's Bench, and if they had got licked they would then have been instructed to take the case to the Court of Appeal, and, if necessary, the House of Lords; and in the end the ratepayers would have had to shell out about £2,500 for costs. Lucky for the Corporation that it didn't run over *our* sweet peas!

A Clerical Inspiration.

The Rev. Charles Thornton-Duesbery, Vicar of Leyton, had an inspiration. On April 2nd in this year of our Lord, he sent out a circular delivered at every house, commencing thus: "The National Census, 2nd April, 1911. As a parish clergyman I have been asked to co-operate in making known the importance of care in filling up the householders' schedules;" and, to cut a long circular short, he proceeded to co-operate by inviting every householder to place in an envelope left with the circular, one penny for each of his family enumerated. "This envelope," said the superscription, "will be called for on or soon after April 3rd next." The vicar's idea was to raise funds in aid of the Leyton Parish New Hall and Institute. There appears to be a precedent for this sort of thing in the half-shekels which Moses was commanded to collect when he took a census of Israel, but if anybody in Leyton takes the objection that our rev. and ingenious brother is not Moses, we are silenced.

The Lawyer's Mite.

This is to advertise the magistrates of the Gloucester Quarter Sessions. They have sentenced Neville Ricketts, 39, a solicitor, to 14 days' hard labour "for stealing a penny roll from a baker's cart in Cheltenham." On the face of it, the decision is simply brutal, and probably the prisoner would have been glad to advise them to that effect for 6s. 8d. A lawyer who steals a penny loaf is more an object to pity than to punish. He must be the hungriest of his species.

The Sexes in Egypt.

A gentleman of influence in Alexandria writes to complain of His Britannic Majesty's Consul General. That eminent official, he says, has not left enough room under "Sex" in the Census form sent out. "As to sex," he says, "male after 'John Brown,' seems funny. Besides we have several sexes here not provided for, —males, females, eunuchs, and missionaries." The four plagues of Egypt, we presume.

Solomon Wanted Among the Economists.

We have received a remarkable circular, headed Boot and Shoe Trades Hall, Leicester, and signed "Yours respectfully, Discharged Workmen." It opens up a large field for argument. The Wheatsheaf boot works recently dismissed over 40 workmen, in view of the introduction of machinery. At first sight, we should be inclined to assert that this gave no ground for complaint. If the introduction of machinery is to be avoided on account of consequent unemployment, why have machinery at all? There would be far more employment if all work were done by hand. We should be sorry for those who lost their employment, but we should tell them that they had to suffer for the common good. That is plain common sense, as well as political economy. But in this case the arguments of the discharged workmen are that the introduction of machinery at the Wheatsheaf boot works will not lead to cheaper boots, while it will deprive the discharged workmen of money which they put into circulation locally, and that the only result will be to increase the profits of capitalists, profits which will be spent on motor cars and other unproductive luxuries. Now we have stated both sides of the question. Who will venture to pronounce judgment?

The Tyranny of Trusts.

The Tobacco Trust, which calls itself The Imperial Tobacco Company, Limited, of Great Britain and Ireland, has issued a printed circular to pillory five tobacconists who are alleged to have infringed the Trust's conditions of sale, either by selling goods below the Company's minimum retail prices, or by giving presents or coupons with them. It is, therefore, enacted that "any customer supplying the Company's goods to the persons before named, or any of them, contrary to this warning, will incur the risk of having his own account with the Company closed." That is, of course, one way of building up huge fortunes, but it amounts to the informal taxation of the general body of consumers, and we hope that some statesman may presently arise and carry through a scheme for putting these Trusts to confusion.

A Clerical Convert.

We are getting on! A correspondent says the Party system has been attacked in St. Paul's Cathedral. At a recent Lenten service there, the Rev. H. F. B. Mackay began his sermon by saying: "There are two great institutions of the modern world which tend to make us careless about men's reputations. The first is Party Government. In the present state of human nature, there may be no better system, but unfortunately it is part of the Party game to belittle one's opponents." Mr. Mackay went on to speak of the Press, and added, "Party government and the Press certainly do not help us to keep the ninth commandment. . . . We have to realise that a person is not necessarily unprincipled because he champions a position opposed to our own. We can never keep the ninth commandment until we learn to look at things steadily, from the point of view opposed to our own." In this strain Mr. Mackay, who seemed to be an out-spoken young man with a hatred of cant, went on to chastise the narrow-minded Party man and to appeal for more Christian charity.

THE AKBAR REFORMATORY SCANDAL.

We had intended calling attention to this matter in the House of Commons last week, on the Motion for the Easter Adjournment. Our honourable friend, Mr. King, however, was good enough to put down a "blocking" motion, thus preventing the question being raised. We must block Mr. King. Meanwhile, we are glad to learn that the Chief Officer, Lovelock—whose brutal methods we exposed in our first article—has "resigned." That is *something* done!

A BLATANT BUREAUCRACY.

We wonder whether the public realises what zealous Conservatives most of the permanent officials are. This may account for a good deal of the milk which has recently oozed out of many cocoa-nuts; also for some of the embarrassments of Messrs. McKenna and Runciman. It needs a really strong man to overcome the passive resisters of a bureaucracy.

ELECTION PETITION TRIALS.

It is time the character of the tribunals in this class of trial was altogether changed. The Speaker, with the Law Officers as legal assistants, should be the authority to decide all matters relating to Parliamentary elections.

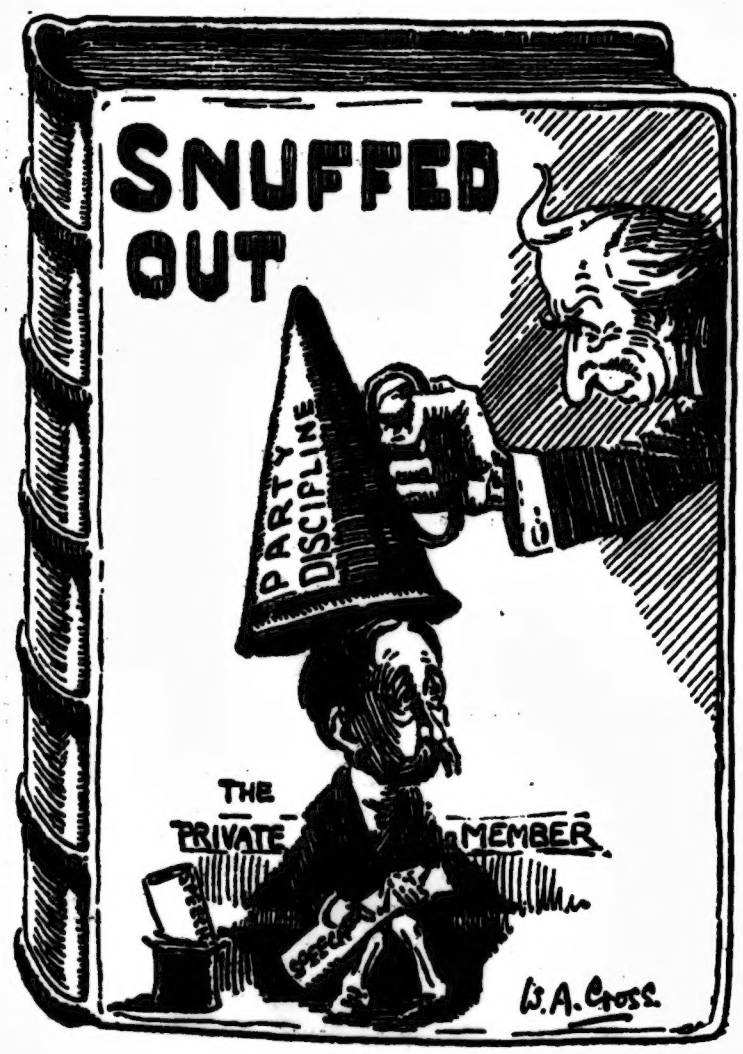
SHORT TITLE.

A terminological inexactitude may now be referred to as "an Exeter." Once on a time it used to be known to ribald Radicals as "a Salisbury." So much for cathedral cities.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

MRS. O'FLANNERY: Whatever are ye doing, Pat, sitting in front av the glass with your eyes shut?

PAT: Sure, I'm just looking to see how Oi shall look when I'm dead.



"JOHN BULL'S" BOOKSHELF.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For advertising: "*World's Greatest Novelty*—LADY FILLED WITH BEAUTIFUL GROWING FLOWERS; ALSO BOOTS, HATS, ETC.,"

MR. C. F. BASTOW (Seedsman, 70, Kensington, Liverpool)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing a recipe for "An Australian Breakfast Dish" of cold boiled bacon or rashers of ham. "To be eaten cold. If you do not possess a COAL HAMMER, *a flat iron is a splendid substitute for one,"*

THE STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing in the "Edinburgh Evening News" the announcement: "Quarters of the LATE *Jas. Watt, Carrier, Bonnyrigg, are* STILL *at* 1, *Niddry Street,"*

THE ADVERTISER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that the L.B. & S.C. Railway Bill "proposes an improved excursion service between Brighton and Newhaven and OTHER *French ports,"*

THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a paragraph in reference to the Kinclon Boy Scouts: "Mr. Webb, the Scoutmaster, WAS TO BE SEEN ALL OVER, *encouraging the boys in their work,"*

THE STRATFORD-ON-AVON HERALD
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating on its programme that an ape named "Consul" performed "before his late Most Gracious Majesty KING HENRY VII.,"

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN ("Sole Proprietor and Managing Director" of the Palace and Hippodrome, Halifax)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a Picton farmer was fined 5s. and costs "FOR NOT KICKING A DOG *under control,"*

THE NORTH-EASTERN DAILY GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its account of the christening of the son and heir of the Earl of Crewe: "The King's present to the infant, Lord Houghton, 400 FOR 5S., 1,000 FOR 10S. 6D., 2,000 FOR £1 1S. AND FORK AND SPOON,"

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following birth announcement: "On the 31st *ult., at Northlands, Clitheroe, the wife of Mr. Walter Southworth,* MANUFACTURER OF A SON,"

MR. WALTER SOUTHWORTH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following paragraph: "Extraordinary incident occurs in Commissioner Street, Johannesburg. Native, emerging from passage, accidentally bumps white man. Being attacked, he seizes white man by collar. Someone raises cry of 'Black Peril' and crowd kicks and knocks boy TO DEATH, *intervention of several sporting men and police* JUST SAVING HIM,"

THE SUNDAY TIMES (Johannesburg)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing the following paragraph under the heading of "WIT AND HUMOUR": "*'Mother, I've come home to die!' said Lily Gertrude, on returning to Chatham after an absence of three months in London. The young woman, after drinking a cup of tea, became ill and died,"*

THE HUDDERSFIELD EXAMINER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—V.

THE DIRECTORS' SILENCE—LAPSING AND THE "FREE POLICY" FALLACY—WRIGGLING OUT OF LIABILITY—THE "OLD AGE ENDOWMENT" FRAUD—MORE TYPICAL COMPLAINTS—TRICKING POLICY HOLDERS—GRIEVANCES OF AGENTS.

We have seen a letter from Mr. A. C. Thompson, Joint Manager of the Prudential Assurance Company, in which that gentleman, referring to the criticisms of JOHN BULL, says that he has received many letters respecting them, but that the Company has decided not to take any action in the matter, believing this to be "the wiser course to follow." Well, if the Prudential Company chooses to sit down under the castigation we are administering—which includes charges closely touching its business honour—it is not for us to complain. Instead of taking the course we should have thought would have appealed to it if it had anything like an answer to our charges—issuing a writ for libel—it seems to have procured various Insurance sheets of the obscurer kind to write so-called replies to our indictment. These articles are apparently sent round to the agents, who are directed to distribute them among policy-holders as an unanswerable reply to our strictures. We do not think any comment of ours is necessary upon the course that has commended itself to the Company. And, after all, there is authority for saying that discretion is the better part of valour.

THE "FREE POLICY" FALLACY.

We are often told that the Managers of the Prudential Assurance Company do not want policies to lapse, and do much to prevent lapsing. If this had been said of the Superintendents we should have been inclined to agree. Lapsing means for them decrease of business, and that is anathema, but if the Managers of the Company wish to prevent lapsing, all we can say is that they take a very curious way to prevent it. One of the rules of the Company is that policies 9 weeks in arrears shall be lapsed, or, to be quite accurate, at the end of the 9th week a notice is sent to the policy-holder that if arrears are not paid up in 16 days the policy will be forfeited, and no plea of unemployment or of sickness is allowed to interfere with this decision. It is true that it sometimes happens that the Agent who comes in contact with the policy-holder, influenced by pity, or unwillingness to lose business, is persuaded to allow arrears to go beyond the 9 weeks, but he does it at his own risk, and the Company is so opposed to extra time being allowed that the Agents who have disobeyed instructions in this respect are liable to instant dismissal. It may be said that when a policy-holder, through sickness, or unemployment, or other cause, finds it impossible to keep up payments, the Company comes to the rescue and grants a free policy. Much is made of this apparent generosity on the part of the Company, but what are these free policies? Take children, a free policy is only granted when they are over fifteen years of age.

SIX ILLUSTRATIONS.

It will be understood how numerous are the cases where parents are unable to pay up to this age on the life of a child, and in all these cases the policy is lost. In many other cases the policy lapses, either because the holder knows nothing about the free policy, or is too careless to apply for it, and even when a free policy is granted it does not amount to much. It has no cash value until death. Let us give an instance or two. We will take six policies within our knowledge, on three of which a free policy was allowed, and on the other three, nothing:—

A. was insured for 24 years at 6d. per week. He paid in all £31 4s. He was allowed a free policy of £9.

B. paid 1s. 3d. for 24 years. He paid in all £78 and he was allowed a free policy of £27 16s.

C. paid 1s. a week, and paid in all £33 16s. He was allowed a free policy of £10 14s.

D. paid 1s. 2d. per week for 22 years, in all £46 14s. 8d. He was allowed nothing.

E. paid 1s. 5d. per week for 4 years and 3 months, in all £15 10s. He was allowed nothing.

F. paid £1 a month for 14 months, in all £14. He was allowed nothing.

Here we have a total payment in connection with these six policies of £219 4s. 8d., against which were issued free policies, representing in the aggregate £47 10s. The official publication issued by the Company itself shows—if you know where to look for it—that last year *the number of lapsed policies considerably exceeded* 1,300,000. But, according to the spokesmen of the Company, the management do all in their power to prevent policies lapsing! Even when the policies mature it seems to be the object of the Company to jockey the policy-holder, if that be possible. One of the meanest tricks by which he is made to suffer is as below.

WRIGGLING OUT OF LIABILITY.

A policy is taken out which requires no medical examination. For several years the man pays his premiums, and then he dies, and those for whose benefit it was intended make application for the money. But it has happened that the medical man who has to certify the cause of death mentions that the deceased suffered from a weak heart, or from some other cause which may not have brought about his death, but which is serious enough to allow it to be said that he was not a good life. Thereupon the Company refuses to pay on the ground that he was medically unsound. It does not matter how long he paid premiums; if only the medical officer's certificate indicates some defect of health, the Company takes advantage of it, and refuses to pay.

When a death occurs—say the husband dies—the Agent is instructed by the Superintendent not to fail to canvass the bereaved wife for more business when she is paid the insurance money. The Agent says something like this: "Mrs. ———, I am sorry for the loss you have sustained by the death of your husband, but the Chief Office wants increase, the Superintendent wants it, and by the death of your husband we lose 3d. per week. Now you are expected, owing to the generosity of the Company in paying this claim, to make this 3d. a week up to them by paying extra on your own life or on the life of another member of the family." This is the representation the Agent is instructed to make, even before the body has been taken to the grave, and he does it because he has to respond to the never-ceasing cry of the Head Office for increase. If he does not get it by hook or by crook, he is "fired out."

THE "OLD AGE ENDOWMENT" FRAUD.

One of the commonest forms of fraud is that committed under the Old Age Endowment, Table 9. A child is insured for a certain sum which, as the Agent tells the parents, will be paid at the age of 15. As a matter of fact it will not be paid, and the policy, a singularly involved one, says it will not be paid until 65. When the child reaches 15, the parents think there is a nice little nest-egg to give him a start in life, only to find there is little or nothing. We are reminded of a case that occurred not long ago in the Bloomsbury County Court before Judge Bacon. A

man named J——, of T———— Street, T———— C—— R——, took out a policy on six children at 4d. a week each; that is to say, he paid 2s. a week, and the business was done, not by a Special Canvasser, or by an Agent, but by two Superintendents, the oral representation being that at the age of 15 the insured would be able to draw out the premiums that had been paid in. After the father had paid £6 16s. he was told by a friend that the children would get merely a trifling surrender value when they reached the age of 15, and that the policies would only mature when the insured reached the age of 65. It was, in fact, an Old Age Endowment policy. Thereupon the father sued the Company for obtaining money by fraud and misrepresentation. The case came on before a judge and jury, and the jury awarded the man his £6 16s. The Company appealed; there was a second trial, and a second jury arrived at the same decision. In giving their verdict the foreman of the jury told the Judge that the policy upon which J—— sued "is framed by a clever actuary to deceive the poor." The Company did not venture upon a second appeal, and curiously enough the case was not reported in the Press. We think we do a service to the public in making it known. Cases such as this might be multiplied indefinitely. We believe that there are tens of thousands of children being paid for in London alone at the present time under the same misleading policy.

Again, with reference to the Transfer system, the agents complain bitterly of the injustice of their treatment; whilst in the matter of commission, the Prudential pays only from 7½ to 17½ per cent., years ago when it had much less money than it has now it used to allow 20 per cent. Rival companies pay 20 per cent, and the Prudential agents are asking that they too shall be paid it.

In this and in many other ways the Company's agents are placed at a distinct disadvantage as compared with the agents of other companies, and it is because of this disadvantage that they are compelled to be a party to the scandalous proceedings we have indicated. This is how an agent puts it:—

> The whole fabric rests upon the backs of the unfortunate agents, and so long as men can be got to take up the agencies, so long will the Company pile up its millions. No self-respecting man, with the merest elementary regard for ordinary common honesty and truthfulness, would, if he knew the conditions, touch an agency; it is only when he discovers himself bound hand and foot, with his own savings, or money borrowed from a friend, involved, that, in sheer desperation, he becomes a liar and a thief. The root of the evil is the scandalous agreement by which the agent is bound. Of the 17,500 agents employed, only 1 in 12 completes 12 months with the Company.

A Typical Complaint.

The following communication is valuable as directly connecting the Head Office with the gross injustice of which the letter complains:—

> I am glad you are interesting yourself in the cause of the working people who are such utter fools as to listen to the agents of the Prudential Assurance Co. I am one of them, and have paid in over £70, and now I am in deep distress and cannot pay, they will not grant me a penny. Where I can do so I have taken out a free policy, but in two cases where my boys are under 21 years I cannot do that, as they do not grant free policies under 21. So I must try and pay on or lose *all* I have paid in for them, namely, £9 odd for one and over £8 for the other; but for my daughter I had paid in 2d. per week for 26 years. Then she married, and they told me if I added 4d. per week more on a new scheme my daughter could take out about £40 or so at the age of 45. Now, after paying in about £14 for her, I find it is only in case of death, so I took out a free policy for her, and I see at her death £5 14s. will be paid. The company cannot say it is the agent's doings, for I sent my books and policies to the head office myself, and begged them to give me ever so little to save my home. They returned the lot, saying they did not pay cash on any of these, and yet when I entered my two boys they assured me at the age of each boy I should have about £5. That £5 was 15s. paid me after they had nearly turned my brain with men calling to point out to me the great advantage it would be not to take the 15s. The advantage was for themselves, not for me, for now I am told I have lost some pounds on each policy because I would have the 15s. The worry made me so ill I went nearly mad and wondered if it would be a good thing to end my life so that my husband and children could draw the money on my policy, and so save our home. It is a disgrace to England that any company should build up such a fortune from the pence of the starving poor.

Tricking a Policy Holder.

We have very numerous complaints of policies obtained by Agents on one pretext or another and not returned. Here is an instance:—

> Having read your article *re* Prudential Assurance Co., which I was pleased to see, I would like to tell you of the way I have been treated by them. Having taken out a policy (£100) in the Ordinary branch on myself and wife, I was induced to take another in the Industrial branch on my wife's father for £15 to be paid at 6d. per week. In May, 1910, I removed from Bradford to Leicester, and put the transference of the policies into the hands of an agent here. Whilst I was at business he called on my wife with some sort of a Superintendent with him, and, saying that there was a wrong number on the policy, took it away to (so they said) send to London to be put right.
>
> The next I heard of it they called at my place of business, when I had not time to bother with them, and told me that they had made it all right, and that the number that was on the old policy was the number of a policy that had been lapsed years before. When I got home and looked to see what difference there was in the number, I was surprised to find that they had drawn out a new policy altogether, also a new payment-book, and that I was beginning over again after being in full benefit. The next time he called, of course, I refused to pay any more until I received the old policy back. Well, he went away, promising to bring it back, but as yet I have seen neither the policy nor the man.

Grievances of the Agents.

Now let us say a word or two about the grievances of the agents. Of course they are parties to these misdoings, but they know that if they shrink from doing the behest of the Company they will be dismissed. The practices we have denounced are much more common in the Prudential Assurance Company than in others, because the terms under which the agents work are harsher. For every 1s. worth of premium lapsed the Prudential agent has to get the equivalent in new business before he gets any procuration fees. In most other companies when the business lapsed has paid the Company, an Agent has not to get new business to cover. In the Prudential a man is debited with the amounts his policy-holders pay to the Company in premiums, then a Special Canvasser gets new business, the Superintendent pays him forthwith from 8 to 10 times the amount collectable by the agent, and if the policies lapse the Agent has to make them good without getting any fee for himself. He has nothing but his salary for collecting. Suppose a man has paid a 1s. a week for 4 years, in all £10 8s., the only sense the policy has been to the Company is the fee to the Agent for securing the business, and payment of salary for collecting. Of the £10 8s. it is safe to say that the Company pockets £7, yet if the policy lapses the Agent has to get new business to cover it, without any fees. What the Agent, asks and what he surely has a right to ask for, is exemption from replacing business when it has lapsed and the Company is not at a loss upon the policy.

THE COMEDY—AND TRAGEDY—OF THE CENSUS.

HOW THE GOVERNMENT KEPT ITS PROMISE TO APPOINT UNEMPLOYED AS ENUMERATORS.

Our readers will remember that, in reply to a question by Mr. Bottomley in regard to the work involved by the taking of the Census, Mr. Burns said that the unemployed were being given the preference. In spite of this, however, letters reach us from all quarters of the country complaining that persons in regular employment at high salaries were almost exclusively engaged in this work.

WOMEN AT WALTHAMSTOW.

Amongst these, a most interesting case is that of Walthamstow, where an extensively-signed protest was presented to the Registrar, Dr. Johnson, complaining of the appointment of a lady, the wife of an insurance official in receipt of about £300 a year. The people living in her immediate neighbourhood particularly objected, pointing out that it was hardly likely that in such circumstances papers could be "Private and Confidential," as was printed at the foot. Another appointment which was questioned was that of the Registrar's daughter, who already serves as Assistant Registrar, and a year or two ago, during the time of her father's absence in Australia, acted practically as his *locum tenens*. On receipt of the protest, the Registrar is said to have promised that the married lady referred to would not collect the papers. Despite this, however, she accompanied Miss Johnson when it was done. Her next-door neighbour refused to deliver his paper to her. She thereupon said, "If you don't give it, you will have to pay £5, and even if you send it to the Registrar-General in London, I shall see it all the same." We may remark, in passing, that, as a matter of fact, the gentleman did send his paper to headquarters.

A NEEDLESS OFFER.

The Secretary of the Walthamstow Distress Committee had given to the Town Clerk the names of 28 selected unemployed clerks, but out of these only 8 were appointed to the work. When asked why so few had been engaged, the Registrar said that the men were illiterate or incompetent. The Secretary naturally replied that if the Registrar had given this information earlier, he would have seen that a further batch of names was put before him.

PRESTON, HUDDERSFIELD AND TORQUAY.

In Preston, nearly all the enumerators are said to have been clerks in the regular employ of the Lancashire County Council, the Preston Corporation and solicitors' offices. From Huddersfield we learn that one of those selected to collect and deliver the papers is practically of independent means, keeping a large ladies' and children's underlinen shop. A Torquay resident complains that in nearly every case the men engaged in the Census work are earning regular incomes of from £100 to £200 per annum, and include a solicitor, two schoolmasters, two local rate collectors, a public librarian, an editor and publisher, two tradesmen carrying on their own businesses, and a secretary to several public companies—in every case these men getting leave to absent themselves from their regular occupations to do the work, or else doing it at night—with the result that some of the papers were not delivered until Saturday afternoon.

A POOH-BAH.

The Superintendent-Registrar for Bath was said to be the Returning Officer for a District Council contest; an enumerator (who is a Guardian for the district, and acted as Agent in the election) being, of course, at the same time in the service as enumerator of the Returning Officer. The Census papers were delivered by the Election Agent during the same week as that which witnessed the District Council contest.

TEACHING THE YOUNG IDEA.

The case of Yiewsley is amusing. One of the enumerators was said to be a schoolmaster, and to have sent the Census papers home by the scholars, instructing them to bring them back on the Monday morning, and threatening that if they were dirty the children would "receive the strap." Our informant says he saw a little girl, not seven years old, "washing" the paper in her hands as she was going to school on the Monday.

And all these places were swarming with deserving unemployed, quite competent to do the work, which had been promised them by the Government!

ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR £2.

THE COLOSSAL IMPUDENCE OF C. MOODY & CO.

We are keeping our eye on C. Moody and Co., who call themselves the Novelty Manufacturing Company (76, Victoria Street, Bristol). Their note-paper alone suffices to arouse suspicions. The names of the company and town are printed, but the street has been added afterwards with the aid of a rubber stamp. Far be it from us to suggest that Messrs. C. Moody and Co. are not one of the oldest and most respectable firms in the country. They may, of course, have been induced by the prosperity due to their honest industry to take more palatial premises, and they may not yet have had time to order in a fresh supply of paper sufficient for the magnitude of their requirements.

Again, they appear to have been unfortunate enough to lose their bankers. Under the heading C. Moody and Co. we read, "Telephone No.," followed by a blank, "Reference No." also followed by a blank, then the following words struck out in blue pencil: "Bankers, The Charing Cross Bank, Baldwin Street, Bristol." Here again we do not wish to do them an injustice. There is just the possibility that they may be the possessors of vast capital, that they were fortunate enough to withdraw it from the Charing Cross Bank before it went into liquidation, and that they are now ashamed of the late keepers of their privy purse.

To be quite fair, Messrs. C. Moody and Co. seem to be persons of infinite resource. On the margin of their paper they advertise a "wonderful motor engine, made from ½-horse power, driven by cold water," which we can readily believe is "a great time and labour saver"; an "easy writing pen clip," which must possess remarkable fascinations, seeing that all "from the King, millionaire, High Court judge, bank clerk to the poorest school children will buy one at sight"; water bicycle, which "will be used on cycles for water all over the world," and so forth.

But these are only subsidiary enterprises. The main purpose of the circular is to book people to Australia, New Zealand, "or any other part of the world." "Please note the conditions" is the courteous request. So here goes—

(1) "Your passage will be paid by the employer with whom you go out, to work for a given time." This is a remarkable exhibition of enterprise. We can only marvel at the stupendous efforts which must have been needed to enable the Novelty Manufacturing Co., of Bristol, to find employers ready to take anybody to any part of the world. Jim Crow has serious thoughts of applying.

Stop, though. (2) "In return for the passage money, you will have to work for him for a few months on a small wage and keep, to allow the employer to recover the passage money paid on your behalf." Jim hesitates, because nothing is said about the nature of the employment, and nothing would induce him to do anything derogatory to his birth, breeding, or high sense of honour.

To cut it short. The rest of the circular goes into sordid matters of shillings. Applicants must pay 5s. in the first place for "registrations," then 10s. for inquiries, "and stamps, making 15s." This, according to our simple arithmetic, amounts to 30s. But Messrs. Moody and Co. require a balance of £1 5s. in order to make up their booking fee of £2. This is a bit bewildering, but we will not haggle over shillings with philanthropists who assure us that the balance "can be paid by instalments before leaving this country or to our agents there," "there" meaning any part of the world. The philanthropy is indeed amazing. Our convenience is studied at every turn. Why, even the registration fee of 5s. may be doled out in weekly instalments. In fact, all is fish which comes into the net of the Novelty Manufacturing Co.

OUR NEWEST POSTER.

THE JOURNALISTIC CORONATION.

In about a week's time, all London will be talking about our latest Poster—or, more correctly speaking, oil painting—which will adorn the mammoth hoarding on the Strand "Island." It will represent the "Coronation" of JOHN BULL and *Mary Bull*, who will be depicted on the Thrones of State, receiving the obeisance of their contemporaries. As on previous occasions, the picture will be painted by Mr. Rowland Holyoake, the well-known artist, from a design by Mr. Charles Crombie.

"BLESSED ARE THE POOR!"

A PARSON'S AND LAYMA 'S DEFENCE CF CLE:ICAL AFFLUE:CE.

"A Clerical Bullite" writes as follows:—

I do not know if anyone has taken up the cudgels on behalf of the men who cannot speak, and perhaps you will listen to one who has no money and never expects any. It seems to me hardly fair to take a group of clergy who have recently died leaving money behind them, and to class them altogether without any investigation as to circumstances. It is as if an old lady were to get her impressions of you from reading all the cases recently before the Courts, and were to issue a list commencing "Crippen, Mr. Bottomley. Mr. Bunn, Morrison, etc." But what is a clergyman to do with his money? I suppose it is only human to marry and to hope for children. Is he to give away all his money or to hand it over to General Booth or the Madagascar concession, and at his death leave his wife and children destitute? Your columns would be full of more heart-rending Human Decuments than ever, and you, who declaim against supporting foreign missions now, would doubtless wax eloquent on the charity that ought to begin at home. My own father has given to the world a sailor, a schoolmaster, a doctor, a business man, and a clergyman; his health is gone, and he now has just sufficient money to support himself, his wife and one daughter. Is he to give his money away and come on his married sons for support, and at his death to leave wife and daughter destitute? Yet his name would doubtless appear in your list and be pilloried as that of a hypocritical cleric. Come, sir, admit that circumstances alter cases, and that a man, whether priest or layman, owes it to his family to leave behind him some of the money that has come down to him, as he would leave his pictures and his furniture.

And then (oh! for a Business Church!) there are livings that are starvings. There is one in this neighbourhood worth £15 per annum; what is a man to do there without private means? Imagine the plight of a man who has, on such an income, dragged out a poverty-stricken existence and at the end of his days been left a sum of money. Is he to hurl the awful sin away from him and go on starving? No, sir, let him accept it like a man and thank God for a little comfort for himself and his wife in their old age.

Your text, "Sell all that thou hast and give to the poor," was spoken to one particular man, who heeded it, but He who spoke it did not disdain the friendship of Joseph of Arimathea, who was a rich man and a landed proprietor. And your other texts were spoken to show that the greater the riches the greater the responsibility, and are applicable to laymen just as much as to the much-abused clergy.

I know that you are glad to hear both sides of the question, and that, if possible, you will find room for a little friendly criticism.

A Sheldon gentleman writes, somewhat in the same strain, in defence of the memory of the late Rev. Mr. Jones-Bateman, of that village, who recently left £94,000, and who certainly seems to have been a most generous and benevolent man.

Our correspondents are quite right; we *do* like to hear both sides of every question—and now we know the other side of this one!

THOSE BIRMINGHAM POLICE!

A Trowbridge lady, rather late in the day, writes us regarding Norman and Co., "Wholesale Merchants, Importers and Factors," Church Street, Birmingham. She makes the usual complaint against the "firm." (By-the-by, in view of the recent controversy regarding its ownership, it is interesting to note that the circular before us is stamped "Harry May, Proprietor.") She forwarded 10s. on February 14th for certain goods, but, though he has written many times, can obtain neither the articles nor the refund of her money. We certainly think that the Birmingham Police should act in the matter. For some strange reason they are exceedingly dilatory—our readers will remember the case of the "old hag" of Buckingham Street, who carried on her nefarious trade until we had twice exposed her, when she disappeared. We have reason to think that in this case the Home Office authorities would have seen that the Birmingham police did their duty.

SHILLING-SNATCHERS.

ANOTHER "HOME EMPLOYMENT" FRAUD.

As, despite warnings in "Letter Bag," we still continue to receive enquiries regarding the attractive advertisement:

"Genuine home-workers wanted, £1 to 30s. earned weekly," we may say that applicants receive this answer from the Metropolitan Addressing and Advertising Co., 73, Cricketfield Road, Clapton, N.:—"We shall be able to put you in the way of earning from 6d. to 1s. per hour at a light and easy business. There is no previous experience necessary, and at first you should be able to earn from 6d. to 7d. per hour, rising after a little practice to 1s. or over, according to the speed, etc., you acquire. This is one of the cleverest and most practical money-making schemes ever introduced into this country and affords a constant supply of work all the year round without canvassing or unpleasant outdoor duties. . . . . You would be well-advised to send to-day for full particulars. We shall be pleased to send post free, in plain sealed envelope, the entire scheme on receipt of P.O. 1s.—1s. is the only charge made and there are no disappointing conditions."

Those who sent 1s. received a recipe for making a "coal economising powder," which they were to put up in tins and sell at a profit. They were either to advertise in the local paper for agents to work on commission, or else to put "small advertisements at so much per word in newspapers, weeklies, novels," offering the article at a cheap price. With great generosity, the Metropolitan Addressing and Advertising Co. volunteered, as advertising agents, to arrange this at specially low rates. Another suggestion they made was to take a directory and send circulars to "the better class families."

We submit that there is some discrepancy here between promise and performance. There are certainly no conditions at all, but we fancy there may be considerable disappointment—at any rate, until the law steps in to interfere with such swindles.

"WHAT HO!"

A CLASSIC INTERPRETATION.

This from one of our readers, apropos of our recent use of the above phrase:—

I don't think that the writer of the paragraph has given quite the right interpretation to "What ho!" See the following:—

"HAMLET,"

Act 3, *Scene* 2.

HAM.: How now, my lord? will the king hear this piece of work?

POL.: And the queen too, and that presently.

HAM.: Bid the players make haste (exit Polonius). Will you two help to hasten them?

ROS. GIUL.: Ay, my lord.

HAM.: *What, ho,* Horatio!

HOR.: Here, sweet lord, at your service.

. . . . . .

Florio's "Second Frutes," published 1591, page 53.

H.: A slice of bacon would make us taste this wine well.

S.: *What ho,* set that gammon of bakon upon the board.

I think that it might be taken as an expression of acquiescence, a friendly greeting, or an exclamation of pleasant surprise. As, for instance, if you proposed sending me a turkey at Christmas, I might respond with What ho!

What Ho!

SOLDIERS' WIDOWS.

H. S. O. (Co. Kerry) has generously sent us 10s. for the benefit of "Mrs. W——," whose case was referred to under this heading. We have had pleasure in forwarding the amount, and also in carrying out H. S. O.'s suggestion of sending a précis of her case to the Commanding Officer of the regiment, and suggesting a regimental subscription.

IS CANADA WORTH KEEPING?—X.

THE TERRIBLE SILENCE—THE SPRING CONTINGENT OF PRESS CORRESPONDENTS.—PROSPERITY RESTING ON BORROWED CAPITAL.

Our Commissioner on the "Free Lands" continues his description of the life of the settler, as follows:—

He has established himself on his free holding. He has erected his shack, has sunk his well, and broken some ground. The summer is over. The winter is beginning. This takes place, so far as the snowfall is concerned, early in November, sometimes sooner. The earth is soon covered deeply by the snow. From November until April the lonely homesteader, far away from his next neighbour, hears no sound, for there would be no sound even if a herd of caribou or moose rushed past his house. Day after day there is the terrible silence, the white mantle stretching from horizon to horizon. The glass is thirty degrees below zero—sometimes as low as fifty degrees or even more.

The Government tells him that he must fence and break his land or quit. Therefore fence he must. He must go and hew or buy his timber and draw it, and at the same time he must keep his shack going. Think of it. He must have six months' fuel, and must keep his stove or furnace going day and night. Otherwise he has freezing to face. Then he must have food for the six months. If he has a horse or other stock he must have six months' fodder.

The Cold.

Many of the homesteaders are single men, and have to work single-handed. This, quite a number of them have told me, is a terrible strain. Sleep in a log cabin without a constantly-tended fire, and when you wake up in the morning the blankets in the neighbourhood of your mouth are ridged with thick ice where your breath has frozen. The very hatchet with which you will cut up your fuel is frozen to the ground! Men have told me that they actually bring their next morning's food with them to bed so that it may not be solid in the morning. I spent a night in a shack without a fire myself to test the statements, and I found them not lacking in truth.

"Going Bughouse."

The silence, the loneliness, the cold have their effect on the average constitution, and they frequently, to use the Canadian euphemism, cause the homesteader to go "bughouse." That is to say, they go mad. The species of insanity is called "prairie madness." When the fact that a homesteader has gone mad has been discovered, it is reported, and the police go to his shack to fetch him away. If he has been over two years in the country, he is sent to one of the already glutted asylums; if he has not been two years in Canada, he is deported. He is not sent home at the expense of the Government. No. He is taken to the coast by them, and then the steamship company that brought him out a healthy, sound, enthusiastic man, has to take him back to England or the continent of Europe *free of charge*. This point, I know, was raised in print in England before, and Mr. Obed Smith, with true Canadian bluff, admitted that insane people were deported by the Government; but he alleged that they were insane before going out, and that some English people were guilty of getting rid of their mentally deficient relatives by sending them to Canada. He did not explain how this could be done, having regard to the fact that each emigrant before leaving England is subjected to a microscopic medical scrutiny to discover his physical and mental state, and undergoes an even more careful survey before he is allowed to land in Canada. The North-West Mounted Police officers inform me that they are kept busy all the year round, but particularly in the winter months, taking lunatics off the homesteads, and that there cannot be any other country in the world where there are so many deaths due to the "careless handling of firearms"—in other words, more suicides with the aid of the gun or pistol. It is quite a common sight at the prairie railway stations to see lunatics entrained under escort—the more violent in chains. This is the saddest feature of the system.

From Toronto.

Our Commissioner at Toronto writes:—

Among the harbingers of spring is the arrival of the advance guard of British special correspondents and journalists interested in Canada—whose roseate accounts of Canadian progress and prosperity, after a necessarily superficial view of the country under the most pleasant and favourable conditions, have done much to mislead British opinion. Even supposing that they had no special interests to serve, and desired to give a fair and impartial description of conditions, it would be almost impossible to do so considering the influences which are brought to bear on them—from first to last. As soon as they land they are taken in hand and everything done to give them a good impression. They are dined and wined by the business and financial magnates.

The Fair Weather Press Tour.

They are taken to meet the "best people," welcomed at the clubs, entertained at society functions. They don't come in contact with the masses of the people—the farmers and the mechanics. They are driven through miles of the finest residential sections of the city where the mansions of the wealthy are surrounded by broad, well-shaded lawns; they don't see the rickety tenements and the sweltering slums. They are the guests of the railroad and enjoy the varied landscape from the windows of a Pullman. They don't realise the monotony of the same outlook on prairie or bush, day after day, from the door of the lonely shack. They see everybody at work. They may have heard, in a vague and indefinite way, that outdoor work is largely discontinued in the winter, but they don't realise it. And so no doubt it will be with the correspondent and the pleasure tourist this summer. They will note the great activity in railroad building. They will see, it may be, great gangs of men laying steel on the prairie, and it will never occur to them to enquire how these tens of thousands of labourers, after they are paid off in November next, many miles away it may be from the outposts of civilisation, are going to live through the winter. They won't see the hungry and shivering crowds of out-of-works in the streets of the Western cities or the wrecks in the hospitals.

The Prosperity of a Spendthrift Heir.

The prosperity of Canada—and there is no denying that the manufacturing and mercantile classes, the railroads and the landowners, are decidedly prosperous—is the prosperity of a reckless, spendthrift heir, who has come into a large estate which he is dissipating as rapidly as possible. Canada is prosperous because she is drawing on her resources, incurring enormous liabilities, eternally borrowing and spending with lavish hand. The Governments, Dominion and Provinicial, the cities, the railroads, the mining and industrial corporations, are all deeply in debt and continually seeking further advances of British capital. According to a recently published statement by George Paish, one of the editors of *The Statist*, read before the Royal Statistical Society, the total amount of British capital invested in Canada is £373,000,000, of which £101,356,180 has been borrowed during the last three years.

A reaction is inevitable and that before very long.

(To be continued.)

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CHINESE IN LIVERPOOL.

WEIRD ATTRACTIONS FOR ENGLISH GIRLS.

A Liverpool correspondent sends us the following account of his exploration into "Hong Kong," the Chinese quarter of Liverpool:—

Under grey skies, and in English-built houses, somehow the Chinese quarter of this great city strikes an incongruous note, altogether out of keeping with its inhabitants. In the daytime there is little to differentiate it from a poor-class district inhabited by the British worker, except the almond-eyed inhabitants, who seem to be busy in their respective methods, all more or less strange to the beholder, of making a living. Cabalistic signs on the windows of the various shops probably convey to those who can understand some idea of the business carried on; words, resembling bars of music, adorn the premises, and over all hangs a strange quiet. Here, within a stone's throw of the principal streets, is no noise, no bustling turmoil, yet all are busy.

By night, however, it gets positively weird. In the semi-darkness, shuffling forms dodge from place to place, doors open and close quietly, dimly-lighted windows convey to the mind all sorts of possibilities. What is behind those carefully closed doors? I will tell you. Every sort of filth, carnal excesses which would baffle the pen of a Balzac, drink, gambling and opium—all in a Satanic *pot-pourri*. In these places a stranger is looked at askance, but much can be learned, even though the worst is kept mercifully hidden. And among all this one sees predominant Englishwomen.

Women?—nay, in some instances, mere girls. All broken in to the rule of the yellow man, all seemingly happy in their fall, and in some cases actually glorying in it. Some are married, most are not; yet they do not seem to mind, and will converse openly about their affairs, and retail horrible, unrepeatable, stories of their lives in the cancer which is eating its way into the heart of this great city.

There is no doubt that no words are emphatic enough to condemn the Chinese here. I am told that these are not even decent-class Asiatics, but principally consist of coolies, the lowest grade; I can quite believe it.

I was considerably puzzled as to how they managed to get hold of the English girls with which they seemed so well supplied. Getting into conversation with a constable and a detective, they told me that their chief work in the district lay in keeping girls from going voluntarily into the houses of these aliens!

"It's a funny thing to me," said the detective, "but there seems to be some attraction with these men that defies locating. If you were to come down here on a Sunday, you would see for yourself what a job we have to keep really respectable girls away. The first time they come, of course, we do not know them, but they are very keenly scrutinised. We cannot stop them going down the streets, as they may be casual passengers, but we watch them as much as possible. The next time we note them and are more careful, sometimes questioning them as to why they are going that way. If their answer is satisfactory, we can only warn them, but the next time we see them we get really doubtful and turn them back, and will not allow them to pass. Yet, in spite of our care, some dodge us and get down into that sink of iniquity, because sooner or later we come across them as regular inhabitants."

There is no analysing the attraction of these men, except that they are known to be kind to their womenfolk.

No wonder the question of Chinese immigration into Liverpool has been engaging the attention of the Home Department, and that Mr. Churchill has under consideration the steps to deal with it!

HIRE-PURCHASE SYSTEM OF FURNISHING.—We wish it to be understood that in criticising the methods of a certain firm, in last week's issue, we did not intend to reflect in any way upon the bona fides of well-conducted establishments, such as the Midland Furnishing Company, to whose straightforward methods we have frequently testified. Properly conducted, the Hire-Purchase system is a boon to persons unable to pay cash down for their homes.

CHELMSFORD AND ITS SURVEYOR.

ILLEGAL PHILANTHROPY?

We are afraid that the Chelmsford Council, or, rather, the majority of that body, in its desire to help its Borough Surveyor, has gone astray. Let us briefly describe what has happened.

Some little time ago, Mr. J. C. Diaper was appointed Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, but, unfortunately, he did not get on with his official superior, Mr. Cuthbert Brown, the Borough Surveyor. Various complaints were made by the Surveyor to the Council respecting Mr. Diaper, and ultimately he was discharged. Prior to such discharge, Brown told the Council that Diaper had "a bad record, as black as it could be." Now, Diaper had been in the employment of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, and on inquiry being made of the head of the Brigade as to the man's record, it was replied that his character was "very good." After his dismissal—for it amounted to that—Diaper brought an action for slander against Mr. Brown, and it was down for hearing at the Chelmsford Winter Assizes, but was settled before it came into Court, the terms being said to be the withdrawal of all imputations, each side to pay its own costs. After the settlement, Mr. Brown applied to the Council for reimbursement of his law expenses, and the Council were advised that they could pay them under the Public Health Act, on the ground that the costs were incurred in the course of his duty. It was therefore resolved by a majority to pay them, the minority objecting on the ground that Mr. Brown was not acting in the course of his duty. But the official terms of the settlement were not disclosed. The fact was that Mr. Diaper, upon whom great pressure was brought, only consented to withdraw the case upon payment of £50. Now, it would have been unwise for Mr. Brown to pay the £50 direct, since it would have made it extremely difficult for him to come to the Council for repayment. Consequently, some friends of his on the Council paid the money on his behalf. That was a kindly action on their part, so far as Mr. Brown was concerned, and probably they would say they were serving the ratepayers, seeing that if the case had gone into Court there might have been substantial damages against Mr. Brown, which the ratepayers might have had to pay. But that argument will hardly hold water. What the Councillors did was to pay the money in order to get Mr. Brown out of a hole, and the law proceedings show that Mr. Brown had put himself in the wrong, and had no claim whatever upon the ratepayers for reimbursement of the expenses consequent upon his indiscretion. It is no part of the duty of a Borough Surveyor to make charges against another official which he cannot maintain when he is put to the test, and the Fire Brigade Committee ought not, as it seems to us, to have taken over the costs of the settlement and so relieved Mr. Brown at the expense of the ratepayers.

THE RE-STOR INSTITUTE ADMITS FRAUD.

A WORD TO SCOTLAND YARD.

Our readers will remember our recent exposures of the Re-Stor Institute, of 1, St. Agnes' Place, Kennington, which, in order to obtain money from that credulous class, the suffering poor, issued a sheet of "testimonials" from cases numbered as high as 4,243—although the wonder-working concern, less than a month before, started with a cash capital of £3! We stigmatised this as an endeavour to obtain money by false pretences.

Our exposures have thrown into a panic the individuals who, under various aliases, have been working this swindle, for they have hastily withdrawn the precious "testimonials," thereby admitting our charge. The matter, however, is of too grave a character to be allowed to drop, and we think it right to call the attention of the Public Prosecutor to the ringleader of the gang—the man James Cooper, whom the police would be able to find at 5, Duke's Brow, Blackburn, his alias of Eastwood being used at his accommodation London address, 31, Heathland Road, Stoke Newington. Our information is that this rascal conducts a Sunday-school class for ladies at a Nonconformist chapel. If so, he but adds hypocrisy to fraud.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?
See page ii. of cover.

NO YOUNG-LOOKING "ROBERTS" WANTED.

BAD NEWS FOR WIGTOWN COOKS.

Here is a pitiful plaint from a reader:—

> I applied for a position as police constable in County of Wigtown, and passed qualifications as to age, height, etc., and was more than surprised to receive the enclosed reply.
>
> The vacancy was advertised in the *Scotsman*, and qualifications asked for were as follows:—Candidates must be under 25 years of age, married, and not under 5 ft. 10½ ins. in height. Well I am 23 years of age, married, and am 5 ft. 11½ ins. in height, and I sent first-class references as to character, etc.

And here is the letter from the Chief Constable of Wigtownshire—kindly and sympathetic in tone, but cruelly eloquent with meaning!

> I am obliged for your letter and for the photograph of yourself, which I now return. Mr. ——'s testimonial in your favour is a very satisfactory one, but I much fear that you are too youthful in appearance for present appointment to a police force. It is not your fault that you have a young face, but it undoubtedly tells against a candidate's chances of appointment. At the present time there is a great demand for eligible young men for the City of Glasgow Police, but I know that the Chief Constable is averse to taking men who look very youthful, even though their qualifications in other respects are all right.

GENERAL MOTOR CAB COMPANY.

A QUESTION OF HOLIDAYS.

Our attention has been directed to the action of the General Motor Cab Company in the matter of the holidays of their employés. Hitherto it has been the rule to grant to employés of 12 months' service and upwards two weeks' annual holiday. This year it has been intimated that in future no holidays will be given to the staff except to the heads of the various departments, who will receive the usual leave. This is considered very unkind usage by the garage staff, who work Sundays and Bank Holidays, and commence at 5 to 6 a.m. throughout the year.

Take the cashiers, for instance, who work at high pressure with dozens of drivers shouting around them, but should one make a mistake he is liable to be "fired out" at a moment's notice.

We find it difficult to believe that the directors had the full facts before them when the decision as to holidays was arrived at, and we venture to hope that even if they are directly responsible for that decision, they may be induced to reconsider it, the more so as we are assured the holidays need not cost the Company a penny piece

SUPERCILIOUS KYRLE.

A COMPREHENSIVE LIMITATION.

What is the Kyrle Society? We notice that it is making a public appeal for old periodicals and books, to be distributed among clubs and hospitals, and that "any sort or kind of literature—except, perhaps, of a controversial character—will be welcome." Except, perhaps, of a controversial character! That was precisely what we began to fear when we first noticed the appeal. We submit that there is scarcely a single book or periodical worth anything at all which is not of a controversial nature.

Education is all a matter of controversy. Some eople argue that the world is round, others that certain plays were written by a persen called Shakespeare, others that the Party system is the best in the world. These are all controversial topics, but we suspect that the Kyrle Society would not exclude them.

We even go further in our suspicions and submit that the Kyrle Society will only circulate such literature as commends itself to its obscure officials.

If we are wrong, will they kindly inform us whether they are prepared to distribute attacks on the Church, the Constitution, the Empire, the great Trusts—any rich and powerful institution, or any generally accepted idea? Of course, we do not invite them to do anything so rash and naughty, but before we send them a parcel of back numbers, we feel we are entitled to know where they intend to draw the line.

THE LAY OF THE CIVIL SERVANT.

I went as a boy to a public school,
  Because my pa was wealthy;
I wasn't allowed to learn a lot,
  For brain-work is unhealthy;
But pa each year was surprised to hear
  How well I contrived to do;
For a week I'd cram for a soft exam.,
  And the masters pushed me through.

In the proper course it came to pass
  That I went up to college;
My object was to gather tone,
  But not to pick up knowledge.
Men whose blood was blue I toadied to;
  I cringed when they noticed me;
But I studied not, for that's all rot,
  And I wanted no degree.

Now that I've come down, all I require
  Is patronage to assist me;
The State is in need of men like me—
  In fact, they must have missed me!
A post is due and a mighty screw,
  Then the job I would not shirk;
I'd attend, let's say, four hours a day,
  If the clerks would do the work.

Each week-end I should require a rest
  For I must rest when I'm tired,
And now and then I should go abroad
  On leave as I desired.
Yet I would grace my official place
  And attend without regrets,
If they'd give me there a commissionaire
  To send out for cigarettes.

There's one little fact I can't ignore,
  And in truth I ought to mention,
That I'd be prepared in a year or two
  To retire upon a pension.
I merely wait until the State
  My assistance shall implore;
I'm an Eton lad and an Oxford grad.,
  And England can't want more.

But what is this that I hear of late?
  The fetish of the ages
Is smashed, and the Civil Servants are
  Required to earn their wages!
Oh, it means good-bye to such as I
  If the Government should ever
Refuse the fools from the public schools
  And choose the men who're clever!

R. M.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

TO CURE BAD TEMPER.

(*Dr. Edwin Ash, of the Italian Hospital, says bad temper is really a disease, and it can generally be remedied.*)

If your temper is bad, see a doctor, my lad,
  And cure it for certain he will;
He will rout the attack, it will never come back—
  Till the day when he sends you his bill!

PRISON-BREAKING IN THE NEW STYLE.

(*At Silsden, near Keighley, a mob of unruly persons unsuccessfully endeavoured to break into the police station.*)

"Alice in Wonderland" might stare at this;
  Here's topsy-turvydom without a doubt,
For mad men struggle to break into gaol,
  While those inside would thankfully break out!

RICARDO.

CHOCOLATE CLUBS.—A Bolton correspondent complains that many churches in that town trade in what is called chocolate clubs. One of the churches, which makes £500 by a bazaar, has just sold 4,500 boxes of Rowntree's chocolate. Our correspondent says that these people have no income-tax to pay, and are taking the bread out of the mouths of a very deserving class of tradesman.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXXXVIII.

A CLERK'S APPEAL FOR WORK.

We have investigated the facts connected with the following appeal. We always like to publish the appeal in the words of the man who makes it. It seems to us so much more likely to be convincing than if it is what newspaper people call "written up," but, of course, at times the man who appeals to the sympathetic suffers somewhat from this procedure. For it often happens that the writers who are the most deserving of sympathy have not the trick of putting their appeal in the form most likely to commend itself. And so with the following: but our readers may take it from us that it underrates the man's claims to sympathy and help. He is willing to accept any kind of work, he is on the right side of 40, and has excellent references. We shall have pleasure in putting any of our readers who are able and willing to help him in touch with him.

I venture to make this appeal through your "Human Documents." I have been in reduced circumstances for some time past through no fault of mine, and have had to dispose of many things to keep my wife and five young children (the baby is only four weeks old); even the blankets I have had to dispose of, and to-day the landlord has put in the bailiff for rent owing. I have struggled t pay the rent, but am working on commission only, and that amounts to 10s. a week. I have the highest references, but cannot get regular work, as stock clerk and dispatch clerk. My wife has been seriously ill, and, with the event to-day, she is very bad.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CXXXVI.—A. C. C., 3s. 6d.; B. P., 2s. 6d.; A. A., 2s. 6d.; E. B., 2s.; "One Who is Lucky," 20s.; R. C., 1s.; U., 5s.

CXXXV.—"A Little Help," 5s.; S. E. D., 6s.; L., 20s.; A. B. T., 2s.

CXXXIV.—R. C., 1s.; "Honest Freemason," 5s.

We think it desirable to say a word or two to those who send us these Human Documents. We take the greatest care to satisfy ourselves that the statements we publish are true. We receive a great number of these appeals, and as we can only print one a week, not all that are worthy are published. But many of the appeals are rejected because on enquiry we find that the writers are undeserving of assistance. Perhaps those who are in that category, and who think that a cunningly-worded appeal will be allowed to pass with the result that there may be a nice little sum of money coming to them, will note.

OH, FOR A BUSINESS CONSULATE!

Here are two advertisements from Johannesburg papers:—

AMERICAN TRADE INFORMATION.

A Commercial Information Bureau has been established at the American Consulate, Standard Bank Chambers, Johannesburg, where Importers and others will find a very complete line of catalogues and price lists of leading manufactures and articles of export of the United States, properly classified and indexed and covering a wide range of American products.

There will also be found files of American trade journals and other literature of interest both to the importer and exporter of South Africa.

A *cordial invitation* is extended to all interested to make use of this Bureau during office hours.

NOTICE.

It is hereby notified for general information that the Imperial German Consulate, Loewenstein Building, Market Square, is prepared to supply information concerning addresses of German Manufacturers, Shippers, Produce Buyers, etc., to anybody interested therein. *The Consulate also possesses a collection of catalogues and price lists of German firms, which is open for public inspection. An official conversant with commercial matters is in attendance from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Perhaps our readers may discover something of the kind issued by a British Consul.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M.

Here be ye Boanes
of
Ye Rygiit Honourable Augustine Bird[illegible]
Who,
As Lawyer, Joak Maker, Authour, and
Partie Politician,
Plaied for a whyle an active parte
in
Englyshe Publick Lyfe.
Born Anno Domini 1850,
Hee,
Havynge escaped ye dangers of Measles, Chicken Pocks,
And other infantyle Ailments,
Was sent to School and College,
Where hee acquitted hymselfe soe well
That itt was decided to make of hym
A Barrister.
Dryftynge, as is usual, from ye Law intoe Politicks,
Hee became, Anno Domini 1889,
Member of Parliamente for West Fyfeshyre,
And, Anno Domini 1905,
Was made
President of ye Boarde of Educacion.
Whereupon occurred
One of ye most remarkable incidents
In hys career, to wit:—
Havynge occasion to introduce intoe ye House
An Educacion Bill,
Hee was one daie meditatynge inn Battersea Parke
When hee was accosted by a chylde,
Who said untoe hym
"Please can you tell me ye right tyme?"
Havynge fayled in hys Educacion legislation,
Hee was promoted to ye poste of
Chief Secretarie to ye Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,
Anno Domini 1907.
Whereupon occurred
Ye second most remarkable incident
In hys career, to wit:—
Walkynge one daie in St. James's Parke,
Hee was kicked on ye knee
By
An enraged Suffragette;
Butte, suche was hys magnanimitie,
Hee neither returned ye blow,
Nor hadde ye virago adequatelie punished.
A sense of humour saved hym from despondencie
Atte thought of
Ye inanitie of hys politickal existence;
When criticised in ye House,
Hee was alwaies able to turn hys opponents' thrusts
Wyth a Joak,
Thus earnynge for hymselfe
Ye affectionate nyckname,
Sainte Augustine.

Treade lyghtlie here, and speake fulle lowe,
For Sainte Augustine sleepes belowe,
Hys joakynges, gybynges, punnynges fled,
Hys last *obiter dictum* said.
See! Shamrock growes upon hys grave;
To showe of sham rock hee was made;
Butte all ye same, synce hee was merrie,
There's manie we would sooner burie!

AUSTRALIAN LINER SCANDALS.

MORE THIRD-CLASS ACCOMMODATION REVELATIONS.

Here is a letter from a correspondent:—

I have just returned from Australia by a German boat, the *Barbarossa* (10,912 tons), and took great pains to investigate the 3rd class accommodation, there being over 100 British subjects on board. Everything was too disgusting for words. Such things as one bath-room (very dirty) for over 100 men. Closets that stunk half the ship out. Fire grenades empty. Cabins crawling with vermin and in close proximity to open cargo of sheep-skins, etc., etc.

THE YANKEE MOBILISATION.

AND WHAT BROUGHT IT ABOUT.

The sudden massing of a third of the United States' army upon the Texan frontier has given rise to many rumours. Questioned in the House of Commons, Sir Edward Grey professed to know nothing not familiar to the man in the street. And it may be true that, when questioned, the Foreign Secretary was without official information. We have reason to believe that this is no longer the case, and, that the American Ambassador in London has now apprised Sir Edward Grey of the facts of the situation, as Washington puts them. The true motive for the sudden action of the American Government was, according to Mr. Whitelaw Reid, that it had come to the notice of the Washington authorities that the Mexican rebels were on the eve of proclaiming a separate republic, under the name of Nuevo Sonoro, and the concentration of the United States army was meant as a friendly act towards Mexico, inasmuch as it was undertaken for the maintenance of her integrity.

Our information is that the true cause of the mobilisation was very different. As we are informed, the real reason for Mr. Taft's action in swiftly massing a powerful observation corps on the Texan frontier was that he had discovered that Mexico was in negotiation with Japan with reference to leasing for twenty-one years to Japan a coaling station on the Pacific Coast.

The negotiation was for a concession of commercial rights in Magdalena Bay, on the peninsula of Lower California. The bay contains an island at its entrance, Santa Margarita, which, if fortified, would render approach to the proposed coaling station a matter of extreme difficulty for a hostile squadron. This bay has for some years been used by the United States Navy on the Pacific Coast for target practice, and it has often been remarked in Mexico that American naval officers seem to consider it as an adjunct to the San Francisco naval station. Japan wants it as a coaling station for a line of steamers running between Japan and California—and, maybe, for ulterior purposes.

It is not surprising that the United States Government should veto the concession. True, it is only a commercial concession, but the American Government believes it to be intended to be much more than that. They dread an alliance between Japan and Mexico, and they believe it to be in contemplation. The suggestion may seem very fantastic on this side of the water. Englishmen will take it for granted that President Diaz is too astute a ruler to jeopardise the independence of his country by any such unfriendly act towards the United States, and that Japan would be mad to risk war with America by refusing to recognise the Monroe Doctrine. But those who know most about the situation are the least confident. Japan would certainly court national disaster if she defied the United States without being assured of the command of the sea. But she might think she has it, and, given it, she might effect a landing on American soil in the Pacific States from which it would be extremely difficult to dislodge her. And it must be remembered that, though the American fleet may be slightly stronger than the Japanese, most of it is in the Atlantic. Nor must it be forgotten that the Mexicans detest the Yankees, and that the Mexican army is reported to be very effective, and to be armed with an automatic rifle better than anything known in Europe. Probably peace will be maintained, but those who think that Japan would have no chance in a war with the United States should read that remarkable book, "The Valour of Ignorance"—written by an American General, and approved by the late Commander-in-Chief of the American army—in which the disorganisation of the American army is disclosed, and defeat in a war with Japan is demonstrated to be more probable than victory.

UP-TO-DATE LANDLORDISM.

We are told that on certain large blocks of workmen's dwellings in Old Street, all rents for Easter week had to be paid in advance. Did it ever strike these enterprising landlords that the people who occupy the dwellings are living from hand to mouth? We presume that the pawnbroker had to come to the rescue.

TWO VIEWS OF JIM CROW.

EPISTLES WHICH CHASTEN AND CHEER OUR LICENSED CRANK.

An anonymous critic from Highgate is very angry with "that doubtful hero J. Crow that dare have the audacity to term himself a philosopher."

He calls him "an untamed lunatic," and says, "it makes me shudder to think that such kind are loose amongst rational society. Of course it must be obvious to all that he is one steeped in the fire of evil-doing and a sunken dissipator. What a glutton for big words he is, this Crow. I suppose he does this with the idea of making us feel small—he imagines, no doubt, we think him a learned professor with a dozen abbreviations after his name. Most of us read your admirable journal to gain enlightenment, not to have our minds and morals cruelly poisoned."

Tastes, however, are by no means all the same. A Liverpool reader writes with reference to Crow's recent article on failure: "Dear Jim,—Will you be pleased to accept a 'brother's' sympathy. Every one of the symptoms under which you have written are mine to-day, and I thank you for holding the pictures up. When a boy in my early 'teens, I became infatuated with a 'Life on the Ocean Wave.' The start was made at the age of 15½ years, and after getting over my sea-sickness I began to dream dreams of the day I would be 'Prime Minister' of a ship at sea. But it is a long way to many—and, I was one of the category—from the forecastle to the quarter-deck of a sailer or the bridge of a steamer. At the age of 31 I found myself possessed of the necessary O.C. certificate. I then left sail and commenced at the lowest official rung in a steamship service ladder. Thirteen years later (unlucky number) I attained to command in the same service, and for ten years following all the 'vanities and vexations' of that position were mine. In a moment of deluded confidence I found myself in 'torrents of trouble.' Through an abnormal current and a dense fog my ship got stranded and became a total wreck. Though reams of consolatory epistles poured in upon me, their uses as 'sweets of adversity' could not affect my position. Even in the Court of Enquiry which was subsequently held, a director in the company employing me declared, 'There was no better man in their service.' But no further command for me seems the fiat of the powers that be. Long and faithful service, coupled with an unblemished character have truly met with that reward which the unfortunate navigator alone must expect when he errs in his judgment to the extent of losing his ship. Again would I thank you, but this time for reminding me that 'Heart Failure' should not be felt while one has a 'Queen' to comfort him: Long live this Queen! 'Nuf sed.' Yours gratefully, NEVER DESPAIR." Jim tenders a hearty masonic grip and drinks silently to Better Days.

THE PARTY HACK'S DECALOGUE.

By W. M.

I. Thou shalt have none other gods but Party.

II. Thou shalt not take of thyself any independent action, for I thy political god am a jealous god, and visit the sins of rebellious politicians upon their Private Bills unto the second and third reading of them that hate me, and show favour to facilities for, and occasionally bestow office upon, them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of thy political Party in vain.

IV. Remember that thou keep wholly within reach of the sound of the division bell all day.

V. Honour thy leaders and the Party Whip; that thy days may be long in the constituency, which thy Party god giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt never murmur.

VII. Thou shalt not commit defaultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not squeal.

IX. Thou must be witless to earn my favour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy leader's place, thou shalt not covet thy leader's screw, nor his job, nor his gas, nor any thing that is his.

"JOHN BULL'S" BOXING CONTEST.

JOHN BULL *v.* MASTERMAN.

(*A One-sided Contest. Special description by our own ring-side reporter.*)

After several disappointments, arising apparently out of "The Minister's" wholesome dislike for the business, the special champion bout between John Bull (Long Acre) and Kid Masterman (West Ham), so eagerly anticipated by good sportsmen all over the country, was staged at the Ring last night, and a capital attendance in all departments was forthcoming to witness the pugilistic treat.

The Long Acre merchant, who now has five years of unbroken success to his credit, as usual stripped rather on the jolly side, but fit as the proverbial fiddle, while his opponent, in view of a probable gruelling fight, looked to have trained a trifle light. Public interest in the meeting ran high, and, after "The Minister's" tall talk in the preliminary stages, some diversity of opinion was manifest as to his likely showing in the ring itself. Some time before the proceedings opened, however, Bull was everybody's money, and, after 6 to 4 taken, 2 to 1 became a general offer at the close.

The men took the ring punctually at 10.30. Bull, an aggressive two-handed fighter and stern believer in business methods, quickly got going, and making play for the head, opened his account with a nice short arm jab to the point at issue. Short in his leads, and not shaping in the least like a workman, the East-Ender was on the retreat at once, and, attempting to give his man the cold shoulder, napped a heavy kidney punch for his pains. He was a trifle groggy at the gong.

Round two found the West Ham lad playing 'possum, but no good came of it, Bull handing across a wicked Akbar thump, causing him to visit the floor, which had been carefully whitewashed in view of such an emergency. Rising, he claimed to have been hit low, but the doctor in attendance, after a brief examination, ordered the contest to proceed. After this, "The Minister," though scratchy and lacking the physique to play a proper part in rough and tumble work, was for a spell the aggressor, but his clever opponent was always doing well with a Hatekey right, and at the bell extended odds were uniformly in demand among the professionals, one bejewelled penciller even going so far as to accept crisp to a shilling cigar about the East-Ender's chance.

The next meeting was considerably delayed by a disaster of the tragi-comic kind, the length of red tape which served "The Minister" for belt giving way under the unusual strain. After his seconds had readjusted matters satisfactorily, clinching became the order of the day, but Bull, not to be denied, subsequently hustled his man all over the ring and ran up a nice sequence of points without reply. Weakening from the effects of punishment, and realising that he was up against a better tradesman in all departments of the game, the West Ham youth at this stage played palpably for a foul, but, the other knowing too much, the gong saw him resting from a short-arm Adam to the heart.

The opening of round four and last was signalised by a great demonstration of hostility to the East-Ender's chance, and cries of "Good Bull," "Finish it," "Put 'im to sleep," were frequent from all parts of the hall. Vicious Reynolds punches, and Brook and Brown hooks and swings, were a feature of the work, but though improving somewhat on his previous display, "Kid," was fought to the ropes and punished freely right and left. Then, amidst great applause, Bull tapped the claret, and, the East-Ender falling to his knees, the whitewash took on a noticeably rosier hue. Thence to the close Masterman was receiver-general, and Bull, crowding in the good work, ran out an easy winner, the other's seconds humanely throwing up the sponge.

So ended a disappointing fight, disappointing because the loser not only lost, but seems to the critical judge to have mistaken his vocation altogether. It is safe to say that at no period of the contest was Bull anything like fully extended. There was only one in it from start to finish, and that was the winner. Masterman is a greatly over-rated boxer. Bull has improved out of all knowledge, and, as a stubborn, determined, and, withal, clean and scientific exponent of business boxing, will soon take all the best can give him.

SOME SUGGESTED "COMMAND" PERFORMANCES.

BY RICHARD MORTON

Now that the King has commanded a Gala Night of Grand Opera and special State performances by the dramatic profession and the music-hall artistes, it is not to be wondered at that other persons and bodies are yearning, and craving, for similar distinction. Up to the moment of going to press, the following is a more or less reliable list of possible, if not probable, petitions to his Majesty:—

The Scottish Association of Bagpipe Blarers desire to give a command performance, as a compliment to the Land o' Cakes and Oats. The proceeds will be devoted to charity, which in this case begins at home. The players will meet *en masse* on Arthur's Seat.

There is a possibility of their prayer being granted, but the King, who is aware music sounds best at a distance, will be content to remain on the terrace at Windsor Castle during the performance.

Another national movement is advanced by the Society of Irish Harpers, who would, as loyal Irishmen, for once obey a Royal Command, if bidden to play a Lament on College Green. A negative answer may be returned to the petition on account of the possible introduction of controversial matters; it is feared that the Harpers would all harp on the same string.

The Men of Harlech and the old Welsh Harpists seek a Command for an Eisteddfod at the Old Welsh Harp, the principal performers to be Mr. Lloyd George, Miss Megan Lloyd George, Mabon, and Mr. David Davies.

It will be noted that there is at present no movement in favour of a Command for the national music of England, the reason being that England has no national music, except German bands.

The Amalgamated Association of Three-card-Trick and Pea-and-Thimble Practitioners is desirous of Royal authority for its members to prove their dexterity on some convenient day—Derby Day preferred. Their cordial invitation to "Find the Lady" and to indicate "Which it is under?" would be extended to all his Majesty's subjects, and a languishing, downtrodden, and persecuted art would thus be profitably stimulated.

The Dukkerin Daughters of Egypt crave a Command to tell fortunes, in accord with the principles of their profession, the only requisites being a little palm oil and a lot of imagination. The future to be prophesied for his Majesty, should he grant this humble plea, will of course be golden and glorious.

The Buskers of the Sea Shore crave Royal authority to perform on the open sands for one month, without being subjected to the crushing financial burdens imposed by Town Councils and local Borough authorities.

The following petitions have been refused, as being contrary to the public benefit:—

Of Fagin, Dodger, Bates and Co., who offered a demonstration of sly-faking, watch-lifting, etc.; and of the Sikes Fraternity, housebreakers and shoplifters.

All the Women who Want Votes implore a Command for a representation on a large scale of their popular speciality—militant methods, including stone-throwing, window-breaking, minister-baiting, bell-ringing, and census dodging. Petitions have also been received from the Passive Resisters, the Anti-Sportsmen, and the Anti-Everything-Else, and these have been reserved for further consideration, but in no instance can hope be held out of ultimate acquiescence.

The Guild of Punch and Judy Showmen desire a Royal Command to perform before the children of London in Hyde Park. Nothing would please them better than such a duty done to the King and the kiddies.

A Select Deputation of Killjoys, Cranks and Bores in the House of Commons supplicates his Majesty for a Royal Command to give at Westminster, or elsewhere, a full representation of their amazing performances when in Parliament assembled. Each member of the deputation will insist on his right to speak on any pet subject of his own as long as he likes and as often as he likes, nobody being permitted to dissent. The performance would be varied, if not entertaining, and would last many weeks, if commanded.

The Command has not been vouchsafed at the moment of writing.

DISCONTENT ON H.M.S. "MARS."

AN UNSYMPATHETIC COMMANDER.

Many complaints reach us from the *Mars*, stationed at Devonport. The general "grouse" is with reference to the captain, who, it is alleged, places more reliance in the civil police than he does in his own crew. There are five hundred men on the *Mars*, and, as is quite natural, some of their parents occasionally "give up the ghost." Sailors, being human, like to attend such funerals, but when they apply for leave it is obtained only after the civil police have made full investigation into the facts Many hours' delay is caused in this manner, and the men resent the whole procedure. Personally, we take their view. We once knew a gallant captain who, for the life of him, couldn't understand why a common person should have any parents. One of our junior staff has had four relatives die in the past four years, and, strange to relate, the funerals invariably took place on Cup Final days. Yet we never for once questioned the veracity of the lad's statement. Besides, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

CLOAK-ROOMS AND LIABILITY.

A RISK SELDOM APPRECIATED BY RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

A correspondent tells us that his wife deposited a bag in a cloak-room of the G.E. Railway. The cloak-room was broken into during the night and some of the contents were stolen, the bag included. When a claim was put in for the loss, the following reply was received :—

> You are no doubt aware that the loss you refer to was due to burglary and the company are, under the circumstances, not liable for the loss in question.

It is just as well the public should know the risk they run.

UNCOMMON COMMON COMPLAINTS.—VII.

By G. G. Woodward.

"AUTOMOBILIOUSNESS."

This malady is of comparatively recent origin, and so rapidly has the disease spread that it may almost be described as epidemic.

The symptoms are well marked and not easily to be mistaken for those of any other complaint. Dark rims surround the eyes, which assume a glazed appearance, while not merely the tongue, but the whole body becomes furred and repulsive-looking, and the features fixed and staring. In extreme cases the hands become black and oily, and it is no uncommon sight to see a sufferer from the complaint wriggling on his back in the centre of the highway, deliriously waving a spanner. At this stage of the disease a straitjacket is probably the only satisfactory remedy, a peculiarity of the complaint being that at all stages the patient never desires a cure, but rather prides himself on its acquisition. Fatal cases are by no means rare, and the accident wards of our hospitals are frequently filled with victims.

It is very contagious, and when fully developed almost incapable of cure, as it quickly becomes chronic.

An anomaly exists in the fact that although it is impossible for horses to contract the complaint, the presence of the disease in this and other countries threatens to exterminate the breed entirely.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

MORE GEMS FRCM OUR LETTER BAG.

Will Mr. McKenna lead the Fleet in case of war?

Does the atmosphere do work?

Can you kindly oblige me by sending me the exact rules of the game of roulette?

An Irish octogenarian asks us to take up a claim which her father made against the War Office in 1860. His name was George Taylor, and he served in the 67th Foot in the Deccan. After capturing the fort of Ruggar, bullock-loads of gold were found, and the men were told that they would be given a share of the prize-money. The old lady complains that her father never got his share, and requests that we will make the War Office disgorge!

THE MYSTERY OF THE FIVE CANARIES.

A TALE OF CHUBBLOCK HOMES.

Related by Dr. Wottson.

By J. S. Blair.

Homes sat, on Friday afternoon, in his favourite arm-chair playing his favourite violin, an occupation which he found to be conducive to deep thought. In vain I had endeavoured to engage him in conversation in reference to his latest problems, for I was not enamoured of the hideous sounds which he caused to emanate from the strings; but he would not attempt to speak.

Ultimately I came to the conclusion that he wished for peace to fathom, or establish a theory on, some problem to be solved, so I left him to his violin and his thoughts.

On returning in an hour, I found Homes poring over a copy of "Bradshaw," ticking off, for his future information, times and trains as if he contemplated a journey.

"Wottson," he said, taking his well-seasoned briar out of his mouth, "you might pack a bag immediately, as we must be at Charing Cross at 4.50."

"Then you are going to take up the Five Canaries case, after all!" I exclaimed in satisfaction.

"Yes," he made answer. "The more I consider the facts the stronger and more absorbing the case becomes, and as I have already formed a theory as to how the birds came by their deaths, I am eager to put it to the test. By the by, Wottson, be sure and slip your revolver into your pocket, we may have need of such a weapon."

"All right, Homes," I replied, and then I left to make preparations for our journey.

Briefly put, the facts about the mystery of the five canary birds was as follows :—

Jabez Horten, Esquire, of Moverley Grange, Kent, had become highly suspicious of foul play when, one after another, and on consecutive days, his five valuable canary-birds mysteriously died. How they came by their deaths he could not understand, for, as far as was known, they had been well and judiciously fed; in fact, in every way well looked after. The matter had so troubled his peace of mind that ultimately he had come to Homes with his story, knowing full well that if anyone could solve the problem, he could.

Thus it was that we found ourselves being whirled along through the hop-fields of Kent that Friday evening.

When we arrived at Moverley Grange, Horten, a pleasant-looking man bearing traces of grief on his face, at once escorted us to the aviary of death.

"Ah! Mr. Homes," he exclaimed, brokenly, "I do hope you will be able to shed light on the circumstances surrounding this terrible affair."

To a man such as Homes, the aviary did not present a clueless spectacle, though, I must confess, to me it seemed an impossibility to find any clues there. Homes probed here and there, and finally picking up a crumb from the floor, he gave a grunt expressive of satisfaction.

"I think I shall soon be in a position to enlighten our friend as to the cause of death," he said, tapping his lips with the tips of the fingers of his left hand. "Wottson, I may be absent some time as I wish to visit the village."

In about an hour Homes returned, and meeting me in the hall he said, "I have solved the problem, Wottson; we will go now and ease Horten's mind."

We were soon comfortably ensconced in Horten's den, and when Homes had filled and lighted his pipe, he commenced.

"Mr. Horten, do you find the local baker satisfactory? You are supplied by Steyn and Co., of course?"

"What!" exclaimed Horten in amazement. "How do you——"

"Oh! that is easily explained," interrupted Homes. "I have been to Steyn and Co.'s, and they have told me you are a customer. You gave the birds bread-crumbs I presume?"

"Yes," replied Horten, "But I assure you——"

"Aha!" interrupted Homes, in triumph. "Have you given them bread-crumbs lately?"

"Yes," replied Horton, "but really——"

"Then," cried Homes, "the mystery is solved. The birds died"—he paused impressively—"through *eating Standard Bread*-crumbs!"

Try an

AutoStrop SAFETY RAZOR

through your local dealer for 30 days—FREE

You will never fully appreciate the comfort, speed, and convenience of the AutoStrop Safety Razor until you shave with it.

Almost any safety razor is safe, but the AutoStrop is the only one that is always sharp—the only one that is self-contained with nothing to take apart—the only one that a novice can strop as easily as an expert barber—the only one that gives a velvety shave every day of the week—the only one that can be cleaned by just holding under a tap—the only one with which there is no continual expense for new blades.

Therefore we ask you to take an AutoStrop Safety Razor home, shave with it for 30 days, and then decide whether you wish to keep it. The razor will be supplied through your dealer, on whom we will give you an order

Fill up the coupon which appears at the bottom of this page; write your name and address and that of your dealer very clearly; and post the coupon to

AUTOSTROP SAFETY RAZOR Co., Ltd.,
61, New Oxford Street,
London, W.C.

No taking apart for Stropping or Cleaning.

The Standard AutoStrop Set at 21/- contains silver plated AutoStrop Safety Razor, one dozen blades and horsehide strop

FILL UP THIS COUPON AND POST TO-DAY

COUPON.

To the
AUTOSTROP
SAFETY RAZOR
Co., Ltd.,
61, New Oxford St., W.

I wish to avail myself of your thirty days' free trial offer. Please send me the necessary order on my dealer who is

.....

Address.....

Trade { Jeweller / Cutler / Chemist / Hairdresser } .....

Signed .....

Address .....

JOHN BULL, April 22. *Your dealer's name must be filled in.*

MY GARRET.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

You may have gathered from the Jeremiad strain in some of my recent masterpieces that the world has not been treating me quite so well lately as its duty should have dictated. Swine-fever and sheep-scab devastated my farms; the bank manager ran away not only with my mother-in-law, but, worse still, with my bloated balance; all the dead snips which I received from advertising tipsters turned out dead wrong 'uns; and as for the Stock Exchange, pfui Teufel!

The Long Pull.

What would you have done in my place? You would have cursed God and died, as Job was tempted to do when he suffered from boils; you would have absconded, or murdered, or become a monk or a Mormon. But I am made of sterner stuff. I began by going to Paris to see how the poor live at Montmartre and Montparnasse. I herded with Hooligans and associated with Apaches. Then, as you have seen, I sought the simple life at the English seaside and took solemn walks up and down solitary promenades. By this time my creditors were growing restive, so I returned to town and made them my bow, went through that mysterious acrobatic exercise known as pulling oneself together, and migrated to my present garret.

The Drawing-Rooms.

Let me describe it to you. It consists of two great, green rooms. They are commonly called the drawing-rooms, but only one is entitled to that nomenclature. The other is a bedroom, almost entirely occupied by a big low bed, such as we see on the stage in French farce. It has an enormous window with only one cord, the effect of which is that three strong men are required to open or shut it. As I have had to discharge my staff of men-servants, and as the whole work of a large house devolves upon one stout, red maid, I have to do my own defenestration and affenestration—the latter word has just been invented on the spur of the moment, but whether it means opening or shutting, philology does not record.

Domesticity.

Being of a peculiarly tender disposition, pitying the poor drudge who has to carry coals for sixteen persons, cook dinners for twelve, run errands and wash my dogs, I have drifted into being my own body-servant. I not only put on my own clothes and lace my own boots, but I actually brush coats and trousers, shave myself, turn on my own bath, fetch my own stick and gloves when I prepare for a walk. Of course I hate it. I feel that I have lost caste. I shall soon catch my landlady's favourite expression and tell everybody that I have seen better days. But I digress as usual.

Hideous Horrors.

You have had a peep into the bedroom part of my garret. Let me now do you the honours of the drawing-room portion of the drawing-rooms. It is rather like an old curiosity shop. I always had an idea that lodgings were entirely decorated with woollen mats and plush frames and edifices of sea-weed under glass cases. That is probably a reminiscence of the last time I lived in lodgings when my parents sent me to the seaside to disseminate scarlet fever germs. Here I live face to face with two clocks and six candelabra and three épergnes, each about 3 ft. high and plastered with china cupids and innumerable highly-coloured flowers—an astounding night-mare caricature of Dresden, such as might complete the education of a post-impressionist and hurry him to Colney Hatch. There are enough settees and arm-chairs to accommodate a monstrous regiment of women, and there is also a wheezy piano for their entertainment, but there are no writing tables, book-cases, cupboards or other conveniences for people who happen to possess books and occasionally put pen to paper.

The Dust of Ages.

When I arrived I was encouraged by the appearance of space and the promise of fresh air. But a closer acquaintance revealed everlasting draughts, smoky chimneys and the dust of ages. Of course, one cannot expect a single drudge to do the work of a staff of servants, but it is irritating to be unable to touch a window or a table or a chimney-piece or the fire-irons without being covered with grime; to have to rush off every few minutes to wash hands. A feeling of nausea is induced by observing the same old match or piece of fluff day after day on the carpet, and very little imagination is required to persuade oneself that accumulations of filth taint the air. I was half tempted to borrow a broom and experiment in spring cleaning. Then there is the bath-room. I have always disliked sharing a bath even with nice clean friends, but when it comes to wallowing in the soapsuds of doubtful strangers, I am almost tempted to remain unwashed.

Perplexities of Promiscuity.

The absence of privacy is also demoralising. In a flat you have at least your own front door, and need know nothing about your neighbours. But in lodgings they encounter you on the doorstep, pass you on the stairs, and even venture to say "Good morning" as they creep half-clad to the bath. No doubt they mean very well, and are only acting according to their lights, but they destroy that sense of seclusion which is essential to the happiness of home. Moreover, you never know what they will do next. You are not entitled to complain when they seek relaxation in their own peculiar way. Still, a pianola playing jigs downstairs at two in the morning is not precisely a soporific, nor does a violent aroma of kippers increase your appetite for breakfast

Limitations of Lodgings.

You may think that I am dwelling unduly upon trifles and making much of minor discomforts. But the whole question of lodgings and garrets is an important one, seeing how large a number of persons are condemned to endure them. Such persons become acclimatised and regard discomforts as a matter of course, just as pilgrims and prisoners and paupers do. Having suddenly come to this kind of life from other surroundings, I may claim an acuter capacity for criticism, and perhaps offer a few useful suggestions. It seems to me that lodgings, apartments, diggings or whatever you like to call them, belong to an antiquated system of hospitality and must soon be either reformed or abolished. There is something Early Victorian about them, not only illustrated by their furniture and ornaments, but by the whole atmosphere of helpless solemnity, musty pretence and meticulous greed.

A Sad Survival.

The landlady is as useless and dispiriting a survival as the cab-horse. Something quicker and more convenient must be found to take her place. She is the worst kind of parasite because she does nothing to justify her existence. As a rule, I suppose, she is a retired servant, who has accumulated a sufficiency of tips to enable her to take and furnish a house, or else, having failed in more ambitious walks of life, she has drifted into this lethargic method of eking out a stagnant existence. At the best she can only hope to make enough to pay for her board and lodging in the basement, But oftener than not her rooms remain empty during a large portion of the year and, if she wants to make both ends meet, she must descend to depredations or keep an omnivorous cat. Hers is a decaying industry, and in her own interests I should advise her to seek pleasanter pastures.

Every Man His Own Landlady.

What, then, shall we set up in her place? There are crowds of people who cannot afford hotels, houses or flats, and it is hard on them that they should have to provide not only their own board, lodging and attendance, but also to maintain a parasite in the basement. Why can they not establish some system of co-operation, whereby they would have the garret or the drawing-rooms or the two-pair back with proper attendance and a certain amount of privacy, paying no more than their fair share of the necessary expense? That is a better scheme than pulling down all the existing lodging houses and building barn-like blocks of flats which might spell bankruptcy for the promoters. Let us take advantage of existing materials and be content to supersede a system which cannot be defended economically. Who will put their heads and their cash together to carry my humble suggestion to profitable fruition?

Will you have this book on business free?

The Coupon below entitles you to one free copy of a valuable book on How to Succeed in Business. Will you send it to us to-day, as the copies available are strictly limited?

IT is a book containing much of value to any and every man engaged in business, including actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc. It also tells all about "The Business Encyclopædia," the most valuable help that you could possibly have if you want to make a success of your career.

That is why we have arranged to present to readers of JOHN BULL a certain number of complimentary copies of this interesting book on Business—because we want to convince you that the secret of business success lies in business knowledge.

The Secret of Success.

The seven handsome volumes of "The Business Encyclopædia" contain priceless information to the man who wishes to succeed, for in them the most successful men of the day give the results of the knowledge that has led them to success, and there is no other way you can get this knowledge except through "The Business Encyclopædia." It is idle to dispute the value of this knowledge. If you doubt it, just ask yourself a few questions.

Is there *nothing* you could learn from Richard Burbidge, the Managing Director of Harrod's Stores, or from John Cansfield, the Managing Director of Lipton, Ltd.? Could not S. F. Edge, the famous expert in making and selling motor cars, help you to solve *any* of your problems? Would you not be glad to be able to go for advice to A. W. Gamage, who built his business from a little, one-man shop to its present huge dimensions? Or to John Lawrie, Managing Director of William Whiteley, Ltd.? Or to Sir Joseph Lyons? Yet all these men have helped to compile "The Business Encyclopædia," and they are only a few names taken at random from the wonderful list of contributors, who, between them, deal with every subject that could occur in business life to-day. Other contributors include H. G. Selfridge (founder of Selfridge's), Wareham Smith (Advertisement Director of the *Daily Mail*), J. Murray Allison (Advertisement Manager of *The Times*), Joseph Fels, John Hassall (the celebrated Poster Artist), J. H. Rosenthal (Managing Director of Babcock and Wilcox, Ltd.), and many equally successful business men.

You may ask what these subjects are. Well, "The Business Encyclopædia" tells you all about business; just as a general encyclopædia is of value for general information, so is "The Business Encyclopædia" indispensable for business information.

It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work. Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, "The Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business.

Three Opinions.

MESSRS. J. S. FRY AND SONS, LTD., Bristol:—

"The volumes have already proved of great use to us, and we would not be without them on any account. We strongly advise all commercial men to purchase the work. It is the work par excellence for every business man to possess."

SIR THOMAS DEWAR:—

"The volumes are full of information, and I feel sure they will be found necessary in every commercial house. Now that we see the Encyclopædia, the marvel is that such a work has not been thought of in this country before."

MR. L. C. HORSLEY, Cashier, Marlborough Road, Ipswich:—

"I find it of the greatest possible assistance to me in my work as cashier to one of the largest manufacturing companies in East Anglia. I am sorry there were not such valuable sources of information years ago. It would have saved me hours of work."

First Payment only 1/6.

It is only because over 50,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it for the low first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything, nor does it involve you in any obligation to purchase the book.

FREE BOOK COUPON.

This Coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book describing "The Business Encyclopædia," but it must be sent at once.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one Complimentary Copy of the Book on Business offered in JOHN BULL.

Name .....
(Send this Form or a post-card.)

Address .....

.....

OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To Bishop Welldon, Manchester.

DEAR BISHOP,—I have been reading your sermon in Manchester Cathedral, and I want to know what on earth the Census has got to do with religion or morality, or any of the topics to which preachers are usually restricted? You accused evaders of an "absence of patriotic motives," and if you could have established that point you would no doubt have been justified in preaching about it. But what has patriotism got to do with statistics? If the two things are connected, how do you account for the terrible punishments which were meted out to King David for his patriotism in numbering the people? To proceed further with the sermon, I note your violent tirade against Stinie Morrison, who was convicted on circumstantial evidence and whose friends were then agitating for his reprieve. You called him "a man of fierce and savage temperament, without truth or mercy in his nature, an implacable enemy of the society in which he lives"! You said that "a tiger turned loose could not be more dangerous." All this sounds strangely out of keeping with the religion of love and forgiveness which you are paid to preach. But I am not concerned with that. I hurry on to your conclusion: "It is in this spirit, in view of these considerations, that I would ask you to reflect upon the questions which the Census paper suggests." Was there ever such beautiful bathos? I am reminded of the man who was so deaf that he could not lace up his boots. JOHN BULL.

To George Morley, Esq., Chief Constable of Hull.

SIR,—You followed in the office of Chief Constable of Hull a man whose views and methods were, as you are well aware, a frequent incitement to public criticism. If I may judge by what I have observed of you during the comparatively short period of your appointment, it must be difficult for the citizens to congratulate the Watch Committee on your appointment. Whether you are the inheritor of a tradition or the originator of a policy I cannot say, but it is clear from the revelations in the case of the Clarence Inn that police methods in Hull demand drastic improvement. The stipendiary magistrate convicted the licensee largely on the evidence of a convicted thief who, with your knowledge, consent, and approval, was paid to watch and report on what was suspected to be going on in the house. You deny, sir, that either you or your officers knew anything of the man's career at the time. At any rate, the licence holder was convicted on the evidence of such a witness.

Now, sir, I want you to understand that I have not the smallest sympathy with publicans who break the law, but, as Mr. Tindal Atkinson pointed out in his address to the magistrates, this system of purchasing outside evidence "goes to the whole root of justice."

You stated in the course of the hearing that you would not have the slightest hesitation in employing this class of evidence every week and every day. Permit me to be equally frank, and let me say that if I were a member of a Watch Committee I should certainly not give my vote in favour of employing such a Chief Constable as yourself. Let me remind you that you are neither the Parliament, the Lord Chancellor, nor even the Hull Watch Committee. Your official position is that of a glorified policeman, and as such you really cannot be permitted to interpose your peculiar and dangerous conceptions of your duty between justice and the citizen.

If your threat is carried out, there will be nothing to prevent the formation in the city of Hull of a *corps d'espionnage* of convicted thieves, to spy upon its citizens. The prospect is not pleasant. I wish the ratepayers all the joy, and you, sir, all the glory, to be found in it. When the paid police spy is within sight, the *agent provocateur* cannot be far away. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Justice Grantham.

DEAR OLD JUDGE,—I notice that you have acted as Judge for seventeen years in succession at the Bar Point-to-Point Meeting. Happy thought: why not give up the Bench and devote the evening of your days to the more congenial task of filling the Judge's box on the turf? You would have the satisfaction of knowing that there could be no appeals against your decisions. JOHN BULL.

To Councillor Chalmers, Aberdeen.

DEAR MR. COUNCILLOR,—I am very glad to notice the excellent speech you made during the discussion in the local Council on the question of Sunday band performances on Aberdeen Beach, opposed as you were by killjoys of the type of Bailie Kemp and Councillor Newton. Though the performances are for charity and the music what is called sacred, you and your supporters—the Lord Provost among them, it is my pleasure to notice—had to listen to the dreary dithyrambs of colleagues who have deluded themselves into the belief that puritanical cant is necessary to salvation. I believe Councillor Newton is a tug owner; so perhaps it would be convenient to ask him whether he gives all his employés a rest on Sunday, or keeps many of them on duty earning the bawbees for him? Your experience is that of thousands, not only in Scotland but in England as well. As a boy, Sunday was the most miserable day of the week to you, you told your colleagues. "I was not allowed to pare my nails or to play with a ball that day; and I think Bailie Kemp has some of that spirit about him yet. Anything which can increase the joy and happiness of the working classes by supplying good music must be conferring a boon on the community." The people of Aberdeen will be grateful to the majority of the Council for adopting this view of the matter, Mr. Councillor, and I congratulate both them and you.

JOHN BULL.

re Dr. Ingram, Bishop of London.

DEAR MY LORD,—In an account of the proceedings of your recent deputation to the Home Secretary, I find you stating that your "twenty years' experience of Bethnal Green" led you to say the working classes felt legislation on the subject of the Sunday closing of public houses had been "too long delayed." Your lordship will permit me to say that you have utterly misconceived the opinions of working people on this subject. Your Church is alien to them, and its bishops have as little claim to be in their confidence as to speak in their name; and certainly your lordship is neither their prophet nor their presbyter. You do not interpret what they want, but what you think they ought to want. For a bishop at the head of a teetotal deputation to claim to represent the working classes, is much like a starveling of the gutter claiming to represent the House of Lords. If you know what the working classes say and think of the bishops and clergy of a Church which lives with the rich and preaches at the poor, your lordship would be less assured of the propriety of the *role* you sometimes assume on their behalf, for the voice of the Bishop of London is assuredly not theirs.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Justice Ridley.

MY LORD,—It was wrong to call you an "unjust" judge, for, much as I find at times to criticise in you, I know your good intentions and your scrupulous sense of honour. But it does not seem quite wise—or fair—to entrust a political partisan with the decision of a hotly-contested political conflict. In the interest of the judges themselves, election petitions ought to be taken away from them and entrusted to a really non-Party tribunal.

Just a point of law, for your information. The jurisdiction of an Election Petition Judge is ended as soon as the petition is disposed of—and the corridor of a railway train is not within the precincts of the Court.

JOHN BULL.

To H. St. Maur, Esq., ex-M.P.

Accept my sympathy. Of course you ought not to have the seat if Duke had one more vote than you. But it is hard lines to fight an election and have all the trouble and expense of an agitation only to be beaten by such a very short head. You have taken your disappointment like a sportsman, and I wish you better luck next time. What do you think of Ridley? JOHN BULL.

To H. E. Duke, Esq., K.C., M.P.

Congratulations on return to House of Commons. But I wish it had been by a more direct route. Perhaps, however, you will retire, and then have a straight fight, and, like a good sportsman, give Maur another chance.

JOHN BULL.

BLOCKING THE LINE.

ASQUITH (sympathetically): "That signal must certainly be an eyesore to the passengers."

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

After the Holidays—A Clear Run with Easy Money and Rising Prices.

That is what I think my readers should enjoy, at all events, in the first month or two after Easter. Look at Home Rails, how they have surmounted the settlement with heavy contangoes. There is, of course, a big "Bull" account piled up, but no one thinks of clearing out yet. Yet I fully confirm the words of warning which I uttered last week. And why not go out of some of the Home Rails into high-yielding Kaffirs as an investment, or into Rhodesians as a speculation? Yankee Rails had better be brushed aside for the present, but Canadian Pacifics are ever bobbing up, and have touched 233 again. The Grand Trunk directors' report is favourable, with its available amount of £398,518, out of which the dividends down to the Second Preferences are paid, as well as one-half of one per cent. on the Third Preference, carrying forward £9,105 to the current half-year. The working expenses were 73.09 of gross receipts, as compared with 73.65 per cent. in the corresponding half of 1909, but showing a decrease of 0.56 per cent. in the proportion to the gross receipts. The capital charges for the half-year were £376,964. The line should do better now, and in the meantime Third Prefs. are up at 62½. A big rise in Oil shares, notably Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary, is encouraging, and that market will become very active this year, but my readers, who have bought these shares from 18s. upwards, should not forget profit-taking now that the price has crossed 30s. No one was ever ruined by taking profits. Rubber shares are marking time, but Foreign Government stocks are firming up, and there should be a good deal of money in Entertainment shares, in Cement shares, Anglo "A," and some of the leading Industrials.

Defaulting Spanish-American Republics.

It looked at one time as if the various defaulting Spanish American Republics had all come to the conclusion that honesty is the best policy, and that they would forthwith enter upon a path of honourable fulfilment of their engagements. The annual report of the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders, however, brought it home to us that in actual performance the year 1910 was disappointing. Many meetings have been held, and important negotiations for the rearrangement of the debts of these Republics were carried on, while negotiations were also facilitated by the strong interest which Mr. Pierpont Morgan took in the matter. The United States Government, too, has generally favoured these negotiations, as, if successful, the arrangements with the countries neighbouring the Panama Canal would introduce a new influence on these countries by the United States. The arrangements which it was sought to bring about between Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras have not so far, unfortunately, come off, but some kind of prospective settlement of the debt of Costa Rica has been arrived at, the terms of which, however, are considered to be by no means satisfactory or equitable to the bondholders. Timid ever in parting with money, Ecuador has just remitted £689 16s. 10d. on account of interest on the Salt Bonds, but the bondholders of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway have received no interest from Ecuador for the last fifteen months. In Honduras the negotiations for a settlement were well on the way, under the Morgan scheme, when unfortunately some fresh postponement had to be agreed to. That Honduras is one of the most obstinate of defaulters goes without saying, as the country has paid no interest since 1872, so that the arrears of interest on the External Debt of £22,934,000, amount to no less than £17,535,000. Guatemala continues in total default, and no confirmation has been forthcoming of the recent report that the greater portion of the country had been acquired by an American financial syndicate. Santo Domingo, too, seems to be beyond reclamation, in view of the non-fulfilment of the expectations that had been held out with regard to the recognition of the claims of the British holders of these bonds. Under the circumstances, it is a relief to note that Paraguay has continued to meet her obligations, and the only pity is that the Republic is so much disturbed by political unrest. Venezuela, too, has met her engagements with punctuality. The arrangement of a new loan for the refunding of the Liberian debt, which was originally started by the United States, has now been concluded, on an international basis, but terms have yet to be settled with the bondholders. As to the ambitious project of Nicaragua to convert the existing 6 per cent. bonds into a 5 per cent. issue, this, I am afraid, is precluded by the low quotation of 92 of the 6 per cent. bonds. It is to be hoped that the year 1911 will not close without one or the other of these third-rate Spanish-American Republics settling with their creditors, and this will probably be facilitated by the determination of the United States to exercise some sort of financial domination over these Spanish-American Republics.

Omnium Insurance Company.

Shareholders in this company, which is located at 118, New Bridge Street, E.C., complain that, although the company was formed some eighteen months ago, no annual report or statement of accounts has yet been issued. Several of the shareholders who have written to the secretary of the company cannot get a satisfactory answer from him, and there is no official quotation of the shares, or likely to be until some information is vouchsafed with regard to the present position. Perhaps the secretary will kindly inform me how the matter now stands.

The Vagaries of Outside Brokers.

A reader of John Bull complains of the manner in which he is being treated by a firm of outside brokers known as Duncan Forbes and Co., of 49, London Wall, Bank (!) The Bank of England, by the way, is not so near to London Wall that it should be named in this connection. This correspondent complains that, yielding to the blandishments of these outside brokers, who promised returns of about 500 per cent. on money advanced, he sent a cheque on September 3rd, 1910, to buy a few shares in U.S. Steel Common at 70⅜. On September 15th, 1910, he also bought, on a definite promise of £50 on every £10 subscribed, National of Mexico Second Prefs. When they rose 5 points he enclosed another cheque to buy them at 33. Since then Steels have been two or three times up to 84½, and Mexican Second Prefs. at 39½. When Steels were 78, in October, my correspondent requested Duncan Forbes and Co. to sell and clear the profit. He again asked them at 80, and at 82 and 84, but they always put him off. When the shares declined somewhat—still, however, leaving a profit—they also refused to sell. Their last communication was dated February 16th, when they stated that as soon as a point was reached showing a substantial profit they would close. Steels have since been at over 84, and National of Mexico Second Prefs. at over 39⅜. The long and the short of it is that my informant cannot get his profit, and I happen to know that this has been the case with several other readers of John Bull who have been similarly treated. I do not know how long a firm of this kind can keep their creditors at bay, but, at all events, the recital of these little experiences of my correspondents will serve as a warning to others who may be attracted by the preposterous circulars which are being disseminated by these people.

Rubber Valorisation—The Action of the Governments of Para and Amazonas—Rubber Shares Steady After the Mincing Lane Auctions—Low-priced Shares of Producing Companies Most in Request.

The fact that the 375 tons of plantation rubber which were offered in last week's Mincing Lane auctions did not depress the price of rubber is undoubtedly encouraging. There was no very strong demand, but most of the parcels offered were taken, and this is another proof that consumers are in need of rubber. The latest information with regard to the action of the Brazilian authorities has come through the Brazilian Consul-General in Liverpool, who states, on the authority of a cable from the Governor of the State of Para, that the agreement between Para and Amazonas for the protection of rubber production has been duly signed. According to the "Liverpool Daily Post," this information is confirmed from private sources, and while the message does not go so far as the large public interest in rubber would have wished, it is agreed, according to my Liverpool contemporary, that the provincial Governments have very wide powers. Cables are said to have been received to the effect that the Bank of Brazil has taken over the whole of the stock of the syndicate, and that an official of the Government is *en route* from Rio to Para to supervise the syndicate scheme. It would therefore appear as if some kind of valorisation scheme were really in the air, although it is perhaps not intended to put up the price of fine hard Para very high; yet, while it now stands at 6s., it might easily be put up to 7s. *Linggis* have been a steady market at about 50s., and *Vallambrosa* at 36s.; but the *Anglo-Malay* report has created an unfavourable impression, and the price is down at 21s. 6d. I am still of opinion that it is safest to buy shares in companies which have commenced producing, such as *Island (Para)* at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d., which has already shipped small quantities, and will send from May onwards something like 50 tons this year. *Jequié* and *West Jequié* are promising, but the new Bolivian subsidiary of the *Rubber Exploration Company*, the prospectus of which is to be issued a week or so after Easter, will also compete for public favour. This is

the *Aten Rubber and Produce Estates, Limited*, which is acquiring a Bolivian estate of about 560 square miles near the Rio Negro. The current season's rubber produced on the estate will belong to the *Aten Company*, subject to the expense of collection, and 8,400lb. of rubber are already on the way to England. As during the years 1908 and 1909 a fair amount of rubber was produced and sold, the prospects of a quantity for the present year being collected are evidently good. The parent company of this new Bolivian undertaking is the *Rubber Exploration Company*, the shares in which are strong at 2s. 3d. buyers.

Oil Shares After Easter—The Maikop Oilfield in the Limelight—Further Rise in Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary—Cheleken a Good Spec.

Certainly there was no trouble about last week's carry-over in Oil shares, and from that point of view the position is distinctly better than that in Rubber shares, let alone Home Rails, in which the jobbers had a field day. Would it not be wise to withdraw some of the money from Home Rails and put it in Oil shares, in which there is every prospect of a buoyant market, as soon as ever the Easter holidays have been got over? To begin with, the Maikop Oilfield will be in the limelight, as, according to a private cable, the pipe-line will commence working on the 20th inst. Hence already a sharp advance in *Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary* to over 30s. I may mention that I have from the outset been explaining that this was the pick of the Maikop market, and, of course, also that these shares are more valuable than the *Prefs.*, which have only risen to 28s., while the *Ordinary* have gained 10s. Of course, they will pay very big dividends, some 50,000 tons of oil being already stored and awaiting despatch by the pipe-line, while a number of gushers are ready for the fray—but don't forget to take profits. In addition, *Anglo-Maikop* shares are promising at 1⅞, this being a finance company which still owns a number of well-placed lots on the field; also *Maikop Valley Prefs.* at 1-16 discount, and *Maikop Spies*, which have just risen to 16s. The *London and Maikop* is making a call of 4s., so as to be ready for availing itself of the pipe-line. Apart from these Maikop shares, my readers will do well not to acquire any unless they can assure themselves that they are likely to strike oil. I explained in last week's issue the promising outlook for the *Cheleken Oilfields*, and these are an excellent purchase, especially on the present reaction to 1¾, which should merely prove temporary. I am still in favour of *Oil Trust of Galicia* at 1⅜ to 1 7-16 premium. It is evident that the oil war has not yet come to an end. At all events, *Shell Transports* have eased off, while *Spies Petroleum*, as an excellent dividend-payer, have improved to 27s. 6d. There is a prospect of *Egyptian Oil Trust "A"* at 3¾ and *Red Sea Oilfields* at 1 7-16, which have just commenced to move, rising to a higher level. These companies are now going to take the exploitation of their valuable properties into their own hands, as the negotiations with the *Shell Transport* came to naught. I am very doubtful about the promise of *North Caucasus*, but *Burmahs* look promising, and one of these days the value of *Anglo-Roumanian* will also assert itself. This company is steadily increasing its output, and should become a steady dividend-payer. The last telegram from the *London and Maikop Oil Company* was to the effect that they opened the Well No. 4 for two minutes and then closed it, and that the fountain blew with great force over the top of the derrick.

Prospects of South African Mines after Easter—Was there still a Nigger in the Fence?

In last week's issue I was able to congratulate my readers upon a distinct rally in Kaffir and Rhodesian mines. The tone of the market, however, has not been very strong of late, and there were rumours that the dispute with a leading operator has not yet been settled. The Transvaal output for March would, under ordinary circumstances, have been calculated to create a very buoyant feeling in the market, as it proved a fresh high record at 676,065 ozs. of fine gold, of a total value of £2,871,740. The previous highest output was that for December, 1908, which was valued at £2,806,235, and that, moreover, was exceptionally heavy, as it included a large amount of gold reserves. The previous highest record was that of £2,774,390, of October, 1910. As regards native labour, the present total of 212,011 is 4,250 better than that of a month ago. The result of the first crushing of the Randfontein Central is most satisfactory. This was obtained with 700 stamps working 28 days, 8 hours, the tonnage crushed amounting to 179,188 tons, for a yield of 55,026 ozs., and a profit of £80,000. It will be remembered that the total reduction plant of the amalgamated Randfontein Central and South will be very much larger, and it would seem, therefore, as if this amalgamation would prove a great success. Randfontein Estates are up at 2¾ bid, and Randfontein Central have advanced to 2¾. The big Kaffir dividend-payers are, of course, of the investment class, while Rhodesians lend themselves more to speculation of a conservative kind. Prices in this department of rich mines which have been sufficiently opened up to prove them as highly auriferous, are still very moderate, and there is plenty of margin for a big rise by the time they reach the stage of regular output. A line of 50,481 £1 Ordinary shares of *Tanganyika Concessions* has been marketed in Paris. Large options in *Chartered* are still being acquired, and the price is expected to go to 2. I shall be very much surprised if in six months' time such mines as *Lonely Reefs, Hay Gold Mines, Falcon, Cam and Motor, Eldorado* will not double the quotations of the shares, altogether apart from the steadily rising value of land, by which such companies as the *Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia, Exploring Lands and Minerals, London and Rhodesian Mining and Land* should benefit very considerably. By the way, *Lonely Reefs* have already taken a jump to 3⅛. Diamond shares are firmer, and even Paris seems to become more optimistic with regard to these, *De Beers* being quoted 18⅝. West Africans are every now and then holding up their heads, but it looks almost as if no serious rise were as yet on the tapis, while Barrier shares are distinctly neglected. The vagaries of *Lena Goldfields* were directed against the Paris and St. Petersburg "Bears," and the price at one time rose to 5⅛, from which it reacted to 4¾, but a fresh rise has put them up to 5¼. Copper and Copper Mines are at present out of the running, and until the over-production in the United States is restrained it is difficult to see how prices can keep up. It is a serious question as to what the future of the Bullfinch goldfield may prove to be. The price of the leading mine, the *Bullfinch Proprietary*, is only 1⅛, as against 3 touched some time ago. It is true that on March 3rd rumours were current at Southern Cross of an exceedingly rich strike in that mine, and the ore was stated to be very high in value, although the manager is altogether reticent on the subject. On the Bullfinch West, which is being developed, values so far are not payable. With regard to the Bullfinch main lode, Mr. Bennet, who went to Kalgurli, took a bag of samples with him from the mine, from which assays will probably be available, but what the public would like to see is a thorough sampling of the mine by an independent mining engineer. That, at least, is the report from Southern Cross, dated March 6th. I quoted in last week's issue the opinion of a correspondent who considered that the position of the various properties should have been shown in a map.

The Coronation Year—Entertainment Shares as Speculative Investments.

All being well, the Coronation year will bring considerable grist to the mill of the different classes of enterprises which stand to benefit most thereby. In the first place, the railways will bring large numbers of visitors here from the provinces and from abroad. To cater for these visitors will be the pleasant and profitable task of the hotel and refreshment companies. To provide for their amusement will fall to the lot of the theatres and music halls. In anticipation of these bright prospects, partly, there has already been a very considerable rise in Home railway stocks. Hotel and refreshment companies' shares, too, have experienced a substantial improvement; but entertainment shares have still to have their turn, and speculative investors, with a liking for big yields, might do worse than speculate in some shares amongst the following group:—

	Shares.	Div.	Price.	Yield p.a.
	£	%		£ s. d.
Alhambra	1 ..	6 ..	1 3-32 ..	5 9 9
Coliseum	1 ..	22½ ..	* ..	—
Drury Lane Theatre ..	15s. pd. ..	15 ..	1⅛ ..	10 0 0
Empire	15s. pd. ..	20 ..	2⅛ ..	7 1 3
Gaiety Theatre ..	1 ..	20 ..	2 3-16 ..	9 3 0
New Tivoli	5 ..	10 ..	5⅛ ..	9 2 0
Palace Theatre ..	9s.pd. ..	20 ..	1 ..	9 0 0
Moss Empires	5 ..	5 ..	5⅞ ..	6 13 6
The Oxford	5 ..	11½ ..	6⅞ ..	8 16 9

* No quotation in London.

The past year was not a very good one, owing partly to the death of King Edward and to the increased competition amongst the theatres and music halls themselves. Moreover, new houses of entertainment have been springing up in all directions, notably the *Palladium*, which seems to have now well established itself in the good graces of the pleasure-seeker. There is, however, really room for all, as long as they provide shows to the taste of the public.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Premium Bonds.—Foncbon.—(1) No, I should not advise dealing through this foreign firm, as they are known to charge far above market price. I send you the name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of these bonds, and who will treat you well. They will also give you the information you require. Laissez Faire.—(1) I do not give any advice on Premium Bonds, but I send you the name of a London firm of foreign bankers, who are making a speciality of the same, and who will treat you well. (2) You should not deal with the Continental firm, as they are known to charge prices far above market quotations. (3) Speculative. (4) Sometimes right, sometimes wrong. (5) About £20. Jack.—I cannot do better than give you the address of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of these Premium Bonds, and who will advise you in the matter. I return the documents. J. C. R.—The address of the foreign bankers has been forwarded to you. As regards Island (Para) shares, you could buy about £20 worth, the price being 2s. 6d. Country Girl.—(1) I am very doubtful about this concern, which apparently has broken up some time ago. Impossible to trade these bonds. ————.—I cannot do better than send you the name of a firm of foreign bankers in London, who will be able to keep you well informed on the matter for a trifling charge.

Industrials.—J. C. (Stroud Green).—I do not care much for either of these shares. Jays 5½ per cent. Cum. Preference, at 5⅞; Lyons 6 per cent. Preferred Ordinary, at 1⅛; and Paquin 6 per cent. Cum. Preference, at 5⅝ would be better. W. M.—Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are fair Industrials. No. 4 (Black Sea Oilfields Ordinaries are amongst the best of the Maikop oil division, and I must congratulate you upon the excellent profit which you apparently now have at your disposal.

Murchison United.—F. R.—You are quite right, and I cannot understand how the mistake crept in. The Murchison Associated has recently paid two dividends, July, 1910, 5 per cent. net, January, 1911, 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year 1910.

Rubbers.—Rutber Man.—I do not like either Henriquez South (1), or the other rubber shares. Sell, and re-invest in the shares specially recommended in my article. I quite understand your uneasiness with regard to such bank investments, and you should therefore sell and go in for gilt-edged securities, such as Colonial Government bonds. W. P. G.—All three shares in question are of the doubtful order, and you should realise them if you can. Cerebos.—Put the money into Island Paras.

Oils.—T. H. W.—You have undoubtedly a grievance, but it has been decided in the Courts that those who join such movements become jointly and severally responsible for the whole of the costs, notwithstanding any agreement which they may have entered into with the people fathering the agitation. You have, therefore, to consider whether it is worth while throwing more good money after bad. Croydon.—You can, of course, buy the oil shares mentioned by you, but the best shares are Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary, at about 24s.

Ilford Skating Rink.—F. M. (Limerick).—I have all along been urging caution with regard to the skating rink mania, as I thought it would not last, and so it has happened. You have invested £8 in the Ilford Rink, and I fancy you have lost your money. I do not see how I can help you now. You ought to have asked my advice before, and not after. The documents are returned.

Kaffirs and Rubbers.—Avon.—(1) Amongst dividend-paying Kaffirs, you might divide the money over Randfontein Central, which would yield you about 10 per cent., Nourse Mines about 8 per cent., Langlaagte Estate 10 per cent. (2) This is precisely what I told you. As regards rubber shares, Island Para are the best of the four, and they are now producing on a large scale.

General Oil and Finance.—Brigg.—There is no importance in the slight change in the price Even now you could not buy under 1-32 discount. (2) No, but it is impossible to tell. (3) Several are on the tapis, but the question is when they will be floated. (4) The directorate is respectable. The tin company in question is most promising.

Calcutta Sweepstake.—F. J. E.—The price is about 14s., and in "Letter Box" I gave the address of the secretary in issue of April 1st to a correspondent.

National Company.—J. N. S. B.—An excellent Australian company.

Colonial Government Stocks.—J. E. M. E.—You cannot obtain 4½ per cent. in gilt-edged Colonial Government stocks, but you can get £3 13s. in 3½ per cent. West Australian Inscribed stock, at 96. You could also get 4½ per cent. in Melbourne Harbour Trust 4½ per cent. stock, at 102. You will, however, have to increase the amount to invest.

Disappearance of Broker.—B. A. (Brixton).—You have given me an impossible task to find a firm of outside brokers, Campbell and Robinson, who used to hang out at Copthall House, E.C., and who have left there, leaving no address. I do not see how your 200 Serinah rubber shares, which he has sold, can be recovered.

Rubber and Oil Shares.—G. H. F.—You might buy Island Para rubber shares at 2s. 6d., and Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary at about 26s. 6d. You would, of course, have to employ a stockbroker. C. V. K. (Leeds).—Certainly, you can buy such quantities of Island Para or David Young rubber as mentioned in your letter through a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange. Workman (Northants).—I think it would be a good idea to exchange from the stocks mentioned into (1) Black Sea Ordinary, (2) Oil Trust of Galicia, and I would advise you to put rather more into No. 1 than into No. 3. Your stockbroker will, no doubt, facilitate the whole matter. W. T. (Peterhead).—(1) Selangor rubber shares are first-class. It is one of the best companies. (2) I do not like Havana Oil shares. H. R.—Buy yourself some Black Sea Oilfields Ordinaries and Island Paras.

Small Investment.—Scottie.—No; buy a gilt-edged Colonial Government bond, such as Western Australian 3½ per cent., at 96½, yielding over 3⅝ per cent. per annum, and, of course, quite safe.

Mexican Investments.—Timid Foreign Investors.—Political and other circumstances have to be taken into account when making such investments, and although prospects appear to be encouraging, and the yield is not unsatisfactory, I should not advise you to go too heavily into the same.

Cornish Mine.—Fagin.—I do not like the concern, and should never have advised a purchase of the shares. I would not advise taking up any more, which would apparently prove a case of throwing more good money after bad.

£5 Shares.—M. P. S.—I do not think there is any further liability, but why not get out of it at once, as you say you will lose sooner or later?

Provident Land Company.—F. S. (Glam.).—You must tell me a little more about the matter. The mere name is not sufficient.

Building Society.—A. N. Elgin.—As the interest on the shares is reduced, I should think it would be far the best plan to sell. As it is, building societies do not get stronger, in view of the land tax, etc., and you can easily invest money to yield you 4½ to 4¾ per cent. in sound Home Railway securities, which would, moreover, give you an opportunity to benefit by a rise in price.

Bank Shares.—S. E. C.—They have declined rather more than some of the other bank shares, but the institution is a thoroughly sound one. Should you, however, wish to have the opinion of a member of the Stock Exchange, I can give you the address of one, who will make enquiries for you. It is hardly advisable to sell now, but on an improvement it might be better to do so, and put the money into sound securities, yielding about 4 per cent., or, say, in Home Rails, yielding about 4½ to 5 per cent. A. B. C. (Swansea).—These bank shares are, of course, quite sound, but they are not what is called "safe," and have not, moreover, much room for appreciation in capital value. Colonial Government bonds are still the pick of the gilt-edged category.

Purchase of Shares.—A. R.—Your stockbroker will send you a transfer for signature, and then the shares will be in your name, and you can have a certificate. There will be no difficulty about this.

Deposit or Building Society.—J. S.—(1) and (2) I should advise you to do neither, but to buy sound Home railway stocks, in some of the best companies, in which you can get about 4½ to 4¾ per cent., with every prospect of a rise in the value. This will be safer than the alternatives mentioned by you.

Maikop Oil Shares.—H. J. C.—I should think it would be far better if you were to hold this very small lot of Maikop Standard Oilfields. They might, after all, rally, and at present you would not get more than 25s. for them.

Outside Brokers.—Auntie.—You had better see remarks made to-day about the same firm. You will find that the case is exactly the same as yours. Perhaps this will make them pay up. J. W. F.—I have always found that this outside firm, when requested to send money owing, will do so. You will, however, have to make up your mind to pay one guinea for contangoes. The documents have been sent to the head office. Sussex.—It is quite correct that small punters are not accepted by stockbrokers who are members of the Stock Exchange, but I feel pretty sure that if you go into the gambling transactions to which Nos. 1 to 5 are inviting you, you will lose your money. G. B.—I have had no complaints concerning this firm, but it means, of course, pure speculating. J. P. L.—I have not received any complaints concerning these outside brokers, who always have fulfilled their bargains as far as I know, but, of course, you may lose as easily as you may gain. It would be preferable to buy sound stocks, and keep them. John Willie.—I have had no complaints, but in this kind of business it is a sheer gamble. X. Y. Z.—I am afraid that there will be very little to be got from the outside broker named, who has stopped payment. These persons do not usually default until they are at the last gasp. As regards the other outside brokers, Nos. 1 to 4, No. 1 is respectable, and No. 2 fairly so, but I do not know anything about their means, and I should not advise you to deal with Nos. 3 or 4. You had better do business through a member of the Stock Exchange. Mab.—If you are of limited means, you should not go into speculations with outside brokers Of course, you quite understand that that is not investment, but gambling. M. B.—(1) In dealing with outside brokers you run, of course, the risk of losing as well as gaining. It is a mere speculation. (2) and (3) Yes.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

Universal Insurance Loan and Investment Co.—W. A W. (Glasgow).—No, we do not think you could get your money back.

Insurable Interest.—Haiter (Newtown).—If the facts are as you state them, there is no insurable interest, consequently the policy, which we return, is of no value.

Status of Company.—R. C. (Prestatyn).—It is a long way behind the front rank. E. W. G. (Norwich).—We should prefer another selection just now. D. J. D. (Llanelly).—Ditto. Arlsa Craig (Stevenston).—It is a company of standing.

Surrender Value.—J. R. (Wells).—You will get the surrender value on application to the company. It must be for you to decide whether it is worth accepting. We return your policies.

Two Insurance Companies.—Y. B. F. (Low Fell).—You need have no fear. Both are very sound companies. The one about which you seem to be suspicious was established more than 100 years ago, and is in every way substantial.

Prudential.—Nibs (Paddington).—The policy is genuine enough, but it was foolish of you to take it out. It is nothing better than a catch-penny policy. You pay £4 4s. a year and if, say, you were to die after 14 years' payments, you would only get £25.—J. S. (Hull).—(1) There is no insurable interest in your mother unless you are liable for burial expenses, and consequently the policy is of no value. (2) The same remark applies to your step-brother. (3) The policies upon the two boys are sound, and therefore enforceable. R. A. (Manchester).—The policies are of no value to you, since they ceased to be your property at the marriage of your two children, or at their arriving at the age of 21, whichever happened first. If the children are married, then in the case of the girl, her husband would be the beneficiary, and in the case of the son, the wife. J. P. (Lee Park).—Your statements are so extraordinary that we should prefer to see any correspondence you have had with the company. Will you let us have it? A. N. (Crofton Park).—You have no insurable interest, and we question whether, in the circumstances, you will be able to recover the premiums paid. Cicero (Belverde).—There is no insurable interest W. M. C. (Horley).—We question whether, the facts being as you state them, there is an insurable interest. W. D. (Kennington).—There is no insurable interest. W. H. B. (Mere Road).—For the reason given by yourself, your letter was not attended to, but if you will send us a copy we will now attend to it.

London and Provincial Assurance Co.—T. F. (Northchurch).—What is your complaint? In Mr. Stewart's letter of the 13th March, you are informed that your application for an advance "cannot be dealt with for some few months' time." We have gone through the correspondence you have sent us, but do not find any promise of immediate advance. The charge of two guineas "as deposit or survey fee and expense," is not an unusual one. You do not seem to have any substantial ground for complaint. If you can show that you were misled prior to sending the two guineas, as to the date of advance, we should be glad to help you. We return your papers.

Provident Association of London.—Queens (Southport).—We see no sufficient reason why you should not continue payment upon the policy.

The Britannic Insurance Co.—Quid Pro Quo (Chesterfield).—We will give you our opinion next week.

Lest Insurance Company.—Agrippa (S. Kensington).—You are right in assuming that our criticisms on the Prudential only apply to the Industrial section. Of the 12 other companies you name, we should prefer No. 11.

Standard Life Assurance Co.—Policy Holder.—We agree that, and regret that we cannot find space for your clever little parody on Mr. John Hogden. Let us hope that the bonus will be forthcoming at the next quinquennium.

Equity and Law Life Assurance Society.—H. K. (London).—The answer is in the affirmative.

London, Edinburgh and Glasgow Insurance Co.—W. E. B. (Haverford West).—If the superintendent tells you the policy upon your mother's life, taken out in the circumstances named, is valid, he has misled you. There is no insurable interest.

Anglo-Dutch Insurance and Investment Corporation.—R. D. (Hackney).—It is a sound and genuine company. You should apply for the information you want to the general manager.

SHEFFIELD, *March 31st, 1911.*

"Please accept my very best thanks for your past advice which has turned out so well for me.

"With your kind aid I shall have almost recovered all **I have lost with other people. I cannot say how grateful I am to you.**

N.B."

Money-Making comes very hard to some, whilst to others it is surprisingly easy. The above is a case in point. What was it that turned the tide of N.B's fortunes? Simply EXPERIENCE—that Golden Key to the vast opportunities that are ready on every hand if we will but realise them. The successful men who are amassing wealth won that experience. It is the secret of their success—and ours. It is the basis of the Perfected System operated by the

National Share Exchange

which has already Paid Away the enormous sum of

£483,420

The rich experience of those who have become millionaires is now made available by Our System for every man and woman with but a few pounds to profit by.

We Give Our Clients £500,000 Worth of Experience.

Our enormous clientele is drawn from every class. It is one of the features of our special system that no matter where you live or how situated, you may, without the slightest previous knowledge, share in the brilliant successes our system is achieving.

JUST TO ILLUSTRATE

Here are a few cheques, paid recently to clients, taken at random from our ledgers.

Initials.	£	s.	d.	Initials.	£	s.	d.	Initials.	£	s.	d.	Initials.	£	s.	d.
WSJM	55	4	3	CaptCO	80	0	0	ASL	50	0	0	RSH	35	10	0
PB	25	10	0	EJB	20	0	0	JM	20	0	0	WWT	27	0	0
W&BB	41	5	0	JAD	120	0	0	GH	20	10	0	ELF	90	0	0
ARF	80	0	0	FHW	50	10	0	GHP	33	11	0	TW	24	0	0
ARF	83	15	0	EGB	20	0	0	JS	22	15	0	CB	53	15	6
JA	46	1	0	GBC	20	0	0	GHT	26	5	0	RWS	25	10	0

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEE THESE CHEQUES.

Is not this the Golden Opportunity you have so long been seeking?

You may take the First Step Free of Cost and every subsequent Step Free of Unknown Risk, with Profits Unlimited, Cash Settlements on the stroke of the clock and no charges.

Learn How Your Small Sums may be DOUBLED and TREBLED.

To the Secretary,
The National Share Exchange, Gt. Winchester Street, London, E.C.

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "The Modern System of Money-Making," which is a clear explanation of the methods which have enabled you to pay to clients £483,420.

J.B. 8/4/11.

Name _____
(State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss or Title.)

Address in Full _____

Date _____ _____
(Please write distinctly.)

This and all our other advertisements are copyright.

OUR PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONERS IN SHEFFIELD AND MANCHESTER.

THE SHEFFIELD "SHAMBLES."

In the near vicinity of the Great Central Victoria station there are to be found a lot of sheds, which might be anything, from a shoeing forge to a stable. On enquiry, I ascertained that these sheds, in a more or less bad state of repair, constitute what would in any decent city be represented by up-to-date abbatoirs, for here is done the greater part of the slaughtering of the meat supply of the city.

Each shed is about 15 feet square, and is supposed to be able to accommodate three beasts at a time, but I am informed that frequently there are five or six.

Covering the floor is a disgusting mixture of filth, slime and blood, in which the animals slip about.

The sheds are open to the public gaze, and the whole process can be followed. Offal lies about in places, and as the space inside the sheds is so restricted, proper receptacles cannot be provided, but it is removed in open carts.

The floors are below the street level, and in wet weather, with the mud from the street being brought in, their state must be beyond description.

In erections termed "fasting sheds" it is no uncommon thing for several animals to be tied up for from two to four days, and such is the freedom allowed that if a beast lies down (or slips down), it is only after prolonged struggling that it regains its feet, while the other occupants of the shed cannot move or turn round until it gets up.

In the portions reserved for the keeping and slaughtering of sheep matters are even worse. In a shed that would hold six animals are driven twice as many. Into this the butcher goes and gets to work, killing and dressing those he wants in the full view of those whose turn will come later, when the order arrives. Here, also, there is a gruesome mixture covering the floors. Imagine meat, killed and dressed under such conditions, figuring on your own dinner table. How appetising is the idea. Compare also these shambles (and a better name could not have been devised) with the thoroughly humane butchery carried on in the fine abbatoirs in such a place as Birkenhead, not to mention Liverpool or Birmingham. It is a wonder that the public have not revolted long ago.

I shall have more to say next week upon this matter.

EDUCATION IN MANCHESTER.

The training of teachers has been for years a much debated question in Manchester. Periodically the Education Authority go before the Council with ambitious, ill-conceived and unconsidered schemes for building palatial structures for this purpose, but at present they are content with the old technical school, which rejoices in the title of the Municipal Day Training College. The idea of a Training College is, as I understand it, to equip teachers for the elementary schools of the town, and I give a few extracts from the examination paper set to "first year" girls this month, to show how this equipment is carried out. There are thirteen different subjects, ranging from the "Theory of Music," through "Algebra," to "Psychology."

Hygiene.—Question 2: What are the functions of the lymphatics? How would you explain the enlarged glands on the back of the neck of a child with a sore head?

After such a question, No. 3 is a gift: "Why is a deaf child dumb?" I was once asked, "Why does a chicken cross the road?" and commend this question for next exam.

History and Geography.—Question 1 (which must be attempted): Draw a map to illustrate Drake's voyage round the world, and describe the main incidents of the voyage until the expedition reached Valparaiso. I should like to ask, what earthly use is this knowledge to a potential teacher in an elementary school? In teaching geography in Manchester—depending as the town does in so large a measure on its export trade—Commercial Geography is essential, and yet throughout this teachers' exam. not one question appears in any way connected with the subject.

Manchester's Musical Marvels.

Theory of Music.—Question 6: Sketch in outline a first lesson *to children about ten years of age* on Time Signatures. That children cannot spell correctly when they leave school is a mere trifle; they get over it at the expense of their employers; but imagine the horrible condition of any child of ten in Musical Manchester who is not fully conversant with Time Signatures!

The Psychology paper invites the candidate to "collect examples of childish reasoning." I wonder if any of the victims handed in the examination-papers in reply to this.

So the questions continue—75 in all—and a finer assortment of arrant nonsense I have never yet discovered.

In an age when the stress of competition makes a good business education of paramount importance, it is almost criminal to cram such stuff into heads of teachers whose duty it is to train up the next generation of breadwinners. Oh, for that Business Government!

MAPPIN AND WEBB (1903), LIMITED.

Satisfactory Year's Trading, with General Improvement in all Departments.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Ordinary Shareholders of Mappin and Webb (1903), Limited, was held at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., on April 12th, Mr. Walter J. Mappin (Chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, having reported on the considerable increase of the Company's business, and the extensions at home and abroad during the past year, stated that, in the opinion of the Directors, it was desirable to increase the capital of the Company to £500,000 by the issue of an additional 100,000 £5 5% per cent. Cumulative Preference shares of £1 each, to rank pari passu with the present Preference shares.

The Chairman, in moving the resolution, stated the business had shown a remarkable expansion during 1910, the 100th year of its existence, and he saw no reason to doubt that it was capable of still further extension. At the time of the formation of the Company £40,000 additional capital was provided. The balance-sheet showed that they had invested over £50,000 in South America alone at 31st December, 1910, which sum had considerably increased during 1911, with results they regarded as very gratifying.

On the Continent, and in Paris particularly, an even larger amount of capital has been remuneratively invested. The premises, No. 1, Rue de la Paix, Paris, and 8, Avenue Massena, Nice, commanded universal admiration. At Lausanne, which they regarded as well situated for general Continental contract business, they opened premises in November last, and though this, of course, was a much smaller proposition, they anticipated it would prove of considerable utility, as well as a saving in expense.

Conformably with their policy of placing the Company in an unassailable position in the trade, the Board decided on an extension to their large manufacturing resources at Sheffield, and an important addition has been made to the world-renowned Royal Works.

In London the City premises have been remodelled, with results satisfactory to customers and the staff alike. The Oxford Street showrooms have been extended, and no other showrooms in this class of business exist in London to compare with them.

The average profits, as published in the Prospectus, for the three years prior to its issue, were £46,579 per annum.

Those for the year 1909 were, on the same basis of comparison, £49,213, whereas 1910 were no less than £60,814. The Debenture Interest amounted to £11,250, and the Preference Dividend had hitherto been £11,000 per annum. If the whole of the new Capital now authorised were issued, the Preference Dividend would be increased to £16,500 per annum, or, with Debenture Interest, to the total of £27,750.

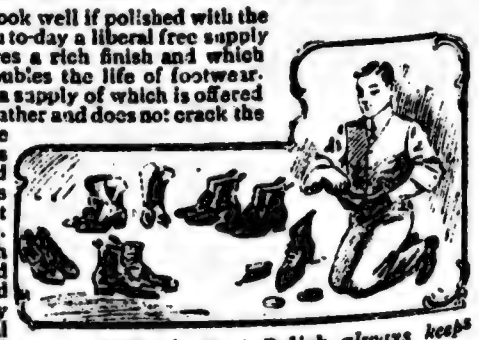
The Report and Accounts were unanimously adopted, and, after confirmation of the Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent., making 8 per cent. for the year, Mr. W. T. Haddock was re-elected a Director, and the appointment of Mr. A. Gordon Maginnis to the Board was confirmed. The Auditors having been re-appointed, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

LIBERAL FREE SUPPLY OF WONDERFUL BOOT POLISH.

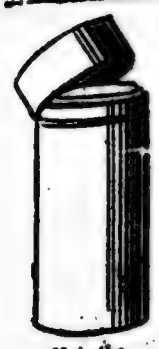
ALWAYS KEEPS YOUR FEET WELL SHOD.

Even old boots and shoes look well if polished with the right polish. Let us send you to-day a liberal free supply of a wonderful polish that gives a rich finish and which saves time and labour and doubles the life of footwear. Day & Martin's Boot Polish, a supply of which is offered free, actually preserves the leather and does not crack the surface of the most delicate glace or patent kid. It gives a rich lasting shine and is used by the maid and men servants of the daintiest ladies and most critical and well-dressed men.

Day & Martin's Boot Polish is supplied by all grocers and all oilmen in specially designed tins at 3d. 4d. & 6d.; it is very economical and gives universal satisfaction. You should specify next tin you order from bootmaker or grocer, insisting upon Day & Martin's Boot Polish and refusing all substitutes. A liberal sample will be sent you postage paid on receipt of your name and address on a postcard. Address Room 24B, Day & Martin's, Borough Rd., London, S.E. When writing please state whether black or brown polish is desired.



Day & Martin's Boot Polish always keeps boots with a smart, new appearance.



Note the Nickelled Box with convenient Hinged Cover.

You can not afford to be careless about the shaving soap you rub into your beard and pores.

You can *not* afford to let any other reason than *purity* influence your choice of Shaving Soap.

Williams' Shaving Stick

"The only kind that won't smart or dry on the face"

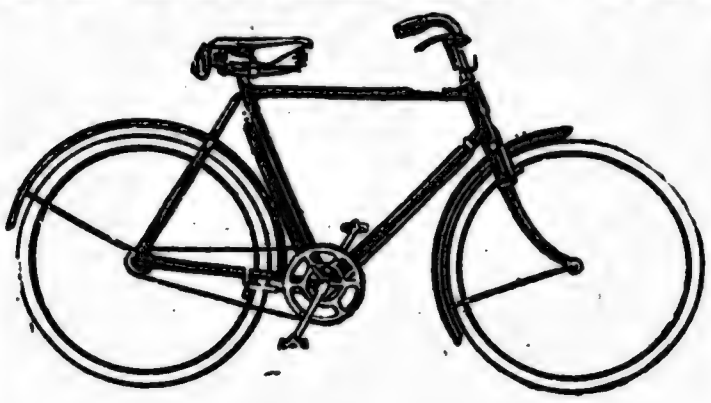
CAUTION There are spurious imitations of Williams' Shaving Stick Be sure that your Shaving Stick always bears this name, viz: THE J. B. WILLIAMS CO., Glastonbury, Conn., U.S.A.

Let the condition of your skin decide once and for all the question of what shaving soap is really *best* for your skin.

Shave with Williams' Shaving Stick and learn the difference between Williams' and the best other Shaving Stick you have ever used.

THE J. B. WILLIAMS Co.,
65, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.
Branches in all parts of the World.
Head Office and factories, Glastonbury, Conn., U.S.A.

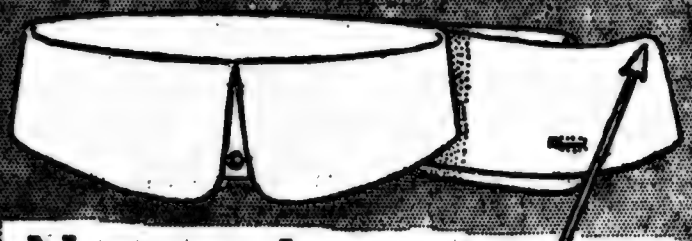
A soundly built cycle from a British Market. 75/-



This handsome-looking machine is as safe as a house. It is British and dependable to the last nut and screw. The Continental Co.'s "Conrex" Tyres are guaranteed by us for six months. This, of course, by no means represents the life of the tyres, which are well made and resilient. Lycett's saddle with nickel-plated springs, Perry chain, and Perry free wheel make this a most tremendous bargain machine, to say nothing of carriage thrown in to help your buying. **75/-**

FREE We are giving publicity to our cycles through the medium of a very interesting and clever little booklet called "Economical Cycle Running." Herein will be found a full specification of the above machine. A p c. to-day will bring this booklet post free to you.

SELFRIDGE & Co., Ltd.,
OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.



No need to depend on your Tie to adjust your Collar,

The Lock Top does it!

Summit 45 6 *for* 3/-

You can get them at either of our four Shops or by post.
Sample Collar & Booklet. 6½d

Austin Reed *Ltd.*
113, REGENT ST. W 13, FENCHURCH ST. E.C.
157, CHEAPSIDE, E.C. 5, ST. MARY AXE, E.C.

Rexine

If you contemplate having your furniture re-upholstered ask to see REXINE. Without doubt it is the most distinctive furniture covering there is.

Made in all leather grains, it is more durable than leather and can be washed when soiled. And its cost is one-fourth that of leather: better and cheaper.

REXINE is equally good for motor cars, carriages, mailcarts, &c.

Every piece of genuine REXINE has the name stamped on the back.

In case of difficulty, write—
British Leather Cloth Manufacturing Co. Ltd, Hyde, near Manchester.

HERR VON BETHMANN HOLLWEGG.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

By Walter Moore.

I had read so much hysterical pleading for arbitration, limitation of armaments, disarmament, and other visionary ideals, and heard so much about a certain book by one Norman Angell, entitled "The Great Illusion," which seeks to prove that victory in war is as disastrous as defeat—from a financial point of view—that I took advantage of a cheap trip to Germany to intervew Herr von Bethmann Hollweg, the German Chancellor.

"What do you think of it all?" I asked.

"Waid a moment," said the Chancellor, laying one finger alongside his nose; "is dis to be a brivate talk—ja?"

"I shall not repeat a word—except to the readers of John Bull," I assured him.

"Ach, dot vos goot; der readers of John Bull are sensible beople. I will speak der troot—und nodings else."

The Chancellor composed himself in his chair.

"First of all," I asked, "what is your opinion of this book, 'The Great Illusion,' which has created such a furore?"

"It is an insuld to der nations," declared the Chancellor emphatically. "It dries to make out dot a nation will nod go to war if it can be convinced dot, win or lose, it will lose money. Ach, Himmel! It is an insuld! Is nod dot man a coward who will nod fight in a just quarrel for fear he lose his purse? Dere are greater dings dan money—liberty, indebendence, honour; all dese a prave nation cherishes, und will fight for, cost what it may."

"I quite agree with you," I said; "and it speaks none too well for the modern spirit when the question of *cost* is one of the chief arguments advanced against war."

"Ach, der modern sbirit!" cried the Chancellor, throwing up his hands. "It is vot you call 'slop'! Dake your own gountry—England. It is full of der 'beace at any brice' barty. You haf lost your nerve. You who haf fought der wor-rled, nod once, nod twice, are to-day afraid. You fear Shermany, you fear Austria, you fear—ja, you efen fear Japan. You tr-remble for Australia; you shake for India; you are all von gread big shake. Derefore, presently, you will haf to fight—und we shall see. Ja!"

"I take it you have no intention of limiting your armaments," I observed.

"None whateffer," returned the Chancellor. "We shall build what we blease. Und why nod? Seventy-five per cent. of der cost of naval gonsdruction goes in wages. Is dot nod good? Is it nod goot for der mechanic, der engineer, der rivetter, der founder, der blagsmit, for all?"

"And you do not think the money thus spent could be used more profitably?"

"Nein; vot is better dan to provide embloyment? You build a sheep at Canning Town, was it nod? Der *Thunderer*, ja? Well, was it nod goot for Canning Town? Did it nod employ tousands for one, two years, ja? Goot."

"But, of course, naval expenditure means increased taxation," I reminded the Chancellor.

"Ja—so; for us, yes; for your poor, no. Are you nod a Free Drade goundry? An extra warsheep on esdimades does nod ingrease der brice of your food. It is your reech, your gomfordable meedle-glass who pay. Nod der poor. Der poor haf der wor-rk und der wages. Der reech pay. Is it nod so?"

"That is a big question," I remarked. "I'm not qualified to express an authoritative opinion. But I would like to ask you, what is Germany's idea in building such a huge navy?"

"It is to be in readiness for 1915, when her gread Armageddon will dake blace."

"Tell that to the marines," I retorted. "It is evidently, directed especially against England. This being so would it not be to our advantage to blow your *Dreadnoughts* to smithereens whilst we have the power, and thus assure the peace of Europe?"

"Nein," expostulated the Chancellor. "Dot would be gowardly. Waid a few years. Den we shall fight—square, ja. It must gome—der fight for European subremacy."

"Then what about Norman Angell's book?" I asked.

"Bah!" ejaculated Herr Hollweg. "*His* is der gread illusion."

"John Bull" Gives Valuable Information to the Public.

The genuine experiences of doctors and nurses afford priceless evidence of the real value of a preparation. The following letters are from doctors and nurses who have learned from experience the marvellous restorative powers of Hall's Wine. "John Bull" has examined these and hundreds of other similar letters, and now tells the public that they are genuine and unsolicited.

No. 840.
"I think very highly of Hall's Wine in cases of Debility, Anæmia and Weakness following illness. The benefits are so marked and rapid, and I can strongly recommend it in cases of exhaustion following after illness."

No. 841.
"I had been suffering for months from Dyspepsia and Anæmia, and eventually should have had to give up my profession. But I took Hall's Wine, and it has proved a most valuable and recuperative agent. I have no hesitation in recommending it to fellow nurses under similar circumstances."

No. 814.
"My personal experience of Hall's Wine is that it is excellent for Anæmia."

No. 826.
"After being completely run down, through overwork, I took three bottles of Hall's Wine, and the effect on me was simply marvellous. I have been 'knocked out' through overwork before, but have never had such a complete and rapid recovery."

No. 827.
"After an operation for Appendicitis the Surgeon recommended me to take Hall's Wine, and after two bottles my strength and energy came back to me. I can safely recommend it to patients recovering from severe illness or after operations."

No. 829.
"I had a practical experience of the value of Hall's Wine in my own case. A fortnight ago I had a most serious cold. I took a dose of Hall's Wine as prescribed, in hot water, on going to bed. The next morning I was much better though weak. I took the remainder of the bottle during the next few days, and I am now quite right again. I shall always resort to it in a similar case."

No. 830.
"I have great pleasure in testifying to the great benefit I have derived from taking Hall's Wine. It is a splendid Nerve Tonic, and if taken at night, as prescribed, induces sleep. I have great faith in it as a restorative after illness. I have seen some very rapid recoveries through it."

No. 751.
"I have had practical proof of the good obtained from Hall's Wine, and always advise it when opportunity offers."

No. 762.
"I consider Hall's Wine to be the best Restorative on the market, and most useful in cases of insomnia."

No. 995.
"I have pleasure in testifying to the immense benefit that I have derived from taking Hall's Wine. I was fearfully run down from overwork, and feeling very heavy and out of sorts. After taking one bottle, I felt quite my old self again, and mentally bright as well."

These letters afford striking evidence of the health value of Hall's Wine. It is true that Hall's Wine replenishes the blood with rich red corpuscles, builds up wasted tissues and restores health and strength. It is essential for anaemia, neuralgia, debility, depression, sleeplessness and after illness. Colds, chills and influenza are prevented by its use—mental and physical efficiency are assured.

210.

GREATEST FURNITURE SALE of the YEAR
LAST TWO WEEKS.

This Sale must positively finish by the end of April, but for the benefit of those Customers who do not wish for immediate delivery, we are prepared to warehouse any purchases in our depositories for six months, free of charge.

If desired all these goods may be obtained on our Gradual Payment System extending over one, two or three years at the purchaser's option, without any deposit, interest or extra charge whatsoever.

6ft. Mahogany Bookcase, constructed on Sheraton lines. The under part has beautifully quartered panels, and the glass doors are all bevelled. Usual price £23 10 0
Sale price £19 19 0

As a special inducement to Country Customers to visit our Showrooms, we will pay their fares to Town on all orders of £30 and upwards.

Country orders packed free and carriage paid.

Special Sale Catalogue will be forwarded on application.

During the Sale we will allow for prompt cash an additional discount of 10 per cent.

The Bookcase illustrated will give one a slight idea of our marvellous bargains.

Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.
15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row,
HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station (Central London Rly.), and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

Dramatic Critics.

Is the prosperity of plays affected by dramatic criticism? I have repeatedly been asked this question, and invariably replied, "It all depends on the value of the critic's opinion in the estimation of the public, but as a matter of fact, the real and only critic is the public itself."

Personally I think that true criticism is frequently hampered by the "free ticket" custom. Theatrical managers send out vouchers for "pressmen," not for the sake of their opinions, but because of the advertisement their notices supply. It is a risk certainly, for if the criticism be an honest one, then the management must take the good with the bad. To threaten libel actions and the application of the Crimes Act if a critic ventures an adverse notice, is as ridiculous as it is preposterous.

I don't believe in what is called dress rehearsal criticism. That, as a rule, consists of a stodgy underdone lump of dough, in the middle consisting mainly of the *conte rendu*, with a first night head and tail tacked on to it for the next day's uninteresting reading. A dead and cold column of this sort of thing is hopeless. The whole thing should glow with animation and life. The acting which people admire ought to be discussed at length and talked about—analysed and considered, for after all the author is greatly dependent on the work the artists supply, therefore they are entitled to quite as much—and in some cases more—praise or otherwise, than the playwright.

Then again don't you think every criticism should be signed? It is distinctly unfair to have the efforts of others foisted on to innocent shoulders. I dislike the system of anonymity, and could point to several cases where friendship has been broken because of it. And it is a mistake for critics ever to be acquainted with actors and actresses. The scheme doesn't work. It's "Hello, dear old boy," one day and the next "D——n you, for a blackguard." I've been through it, and can speak from experience. I have letters in my possession, written the eve before a big production, and those penned the day after. Years of petting and bamboozling have not done much good for the actor in general. Of course there are exceptions, but as a rule the man behind the footlights has a hard try to ride roughshod over newspapers, and editors have given in to him for fear of losing an advertisement.

I shall never forget how Arthur Bourchier tried to keep *The Times* dramatic critic, Mr. A. B. Walkley, out of his theatre—the Garrick—and how that splendid general manager, Moberly Bell, smiled and quietly held his tongue. What was the result? Bourchier had to climb down, for when no notice whatever was taken in *The Times* of any further productions, I suppose Bourchier felt the draught, and had to fling open the doors and beg Mr. Walkley to accept his usual stall. What a lesson Moberly Bell taught his contemporaries by this dignified attitude and his admirable tact.

I remember well how one manager declared that he would not issue a free list on a certain occasion, but that he would just invite the critics to attend when he thought fit. But, "wow-wow," he never for an instant dreamed that his "enemies" would *pay* to see his new play. But they did, and there they all sat in the front row of the pit, smiling and delighted at having won the day. The anger of the outraged actor-manager was terrible, but he had no redress, and notices of his performance appeared in every paper the next morning. And this is how it should be. Invitations to theatres should be abolished, as far as the critics are concerned, and tickets for the newspaper representatives bought by the proprietors, either from the theatres or agents.

The Scala Theatre.

This artistic playhouse has opened again under the management of Charles Urban, the well-known "Picture-Shower." And beautiful films he displays, too, at this lovely theatre. I think, though, Mr. Urban will find the necessity for showing amusing pictures as well as instructive ones, if he wishes to make the Scala the popular place of entertainment it undoubtedly should be, for it has everything in its favour to help towards it.

Clark's College

The Great Centre

FOR

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

AND

BUSINESS TRAINING

FOR

Youths and Young Ladies after leaving School.

50,000 ALREADY SUCCESSFUL

New Term—APRIL 24th

And Ten Following Days.

I strongly urge that it is the duty of all parents, no matter in what circumstances they may be placed, so to educate their children that they may be mentally and physically able to earn their own livelihood should necessity arise.

Such an education is not only a legacy of the best kind, but it is far more useful and lasting than a legacy of pounds, shillings and pence.

DAY AND EVENING CLASSES

Postal Tuition Direct to the Home.

APPLY TO-DAY FOR ONE OF OUR LARGE ILLUSTRATED PROSPECTUSES (FREE).

(Civil Service 19a, Business Training 19b).

Clark's College, Ltd.,

THE CIVIL SERVICE AND BUSINESS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

1, 2 & 3, CHANCERY LANE,

LONDON,

(AND BRANCHES).

A TESTIMONIAL IN VERSE.

She laughed at my Suit
When I asked her to wed
She laughed at my Suit—
'Go to Curzon!' she said
As she knew that I knew
In smart Suitings they led,
She knew that I knew
What she meant when she said
'GO TO CURZON'
! ! ! ! !

We have received testimonials in all languages and from all countries. This in itself is not surprising, since our business and our fame are world-wide. Recently we received the above poetic effusion. There is much truth in it.

Every man interested in himself and inspired with a desire to succeed in no matter what walk in life, should pay regard to his personal appearance.

Our speciality is tailoring to Measure, and our unique methods and the gigantic extent of our business place us in a position to offer the best value in the world. Moreover, we guarantee each and every client's unbounded satisfaction or refund money in full. Indeed, our business has been built up on this guarantee.

Pure Wool Suits to Measure from 23/6.

Our Coronation Blue Serge Suit warranted to withstand sun, sea and sodium.

To measure, 27/6. Very marvellous value.

Perfect Style Perfect Cut, Perfect Finish, Perfectly Trimmed.

Send Post-card for FREE PATTERNS!

whether you reside in London or elsewhere—no matter the distance—our special self-measurement chart ensures your perfect satisfaction. So far is this the case that we undertake to refund cash in full if it fails.

Latest London Fashion Plate of Designs and Tape Measure with Patterns.

AWARDED ONE SILVER AND TWO GOLD MEDALS.

Read our unique list of unsolicited testimonials. **£5,000** forfeited if not absolutely genuine.

Those residing in London and the vicinity should call.

A REPLY TO A TESTIMONIAL IN VERSE

She beamed on my Suit
When I next her espied;
She beamed on my Suit—
'Been to Curzon?' she cried
As I knew that she knew
That her counsel I'd tried,
She knew that I knew
That she'd now be my bride
THANKS TO CURZON
! ! ! ! !

With apologies to the writer of the testimonial in verse above.

CURZON BROS.,

THE WORLD'S MEASURE TAILORS.

LONDON:

60 & 62, City Road, 155 & 5, Oxford Street.

PARIS: 150, Rue de Rivoli.

BRUSSELS: 2, Rue de la Bourse.

LIEGE: 55, Rue Pont d'Avroy.

ANTWERP: 55, Place de Meir.

And in CANADA, SOUTH AFRICA, and AUSTRALIA.

OUTDOOR OCCUPATION.

TO ASSURANCE AGENTS, SALESMEN, COLLECTORS, MEN OF SIMILAR EXPERIENCE, AND OTHERS POSSESSING ABILITY FOR CANVASSING WORK.

Messrs. Kay and Co., Ltd., Universal Providers, Worcester, *established over one hundred years*, have vacancies in the provinces for about 50 experienced Salesmen-Collectors, and are prepared to consider applications from others possessing the necessary qualifications. Applicants to devote the whole of their time to the business of the Company. Must be men of excellent character, and would be required to pass a Guarantee Society, for which the Company pay the premiun.

Permanency, with fixed salary, liberal commission and bonus, sufficient to ensure a good income to capable men.

State age, past experience, and send photo if possible.

Harrods

SHIRTS

FIT WELL AND WEAR WELL.

Excellent quality

ZEPHYR COTTON TUNIC SHIRTS

Single or double Cuffs.

Ready for immediate wear, in all sizes

3/11 each.

Six for **23/-**

Made in the best colourings, new stripes with white grounds, coloured stripes; coloured grounds white stripes; blue grounds white stripes; and plain white.

Patterns of shirt materials sent on application.

TIES at 2/6. BRACES at 1/6.
HEMSTITCHED SILK HANDKERCHIEFS at 2/6.
FINE CASHMERE HALF-HOSE at 1/6 per pair.
(To match the color of shirts.)

HARRODS, LTD. (RICHARD BURBIDGE, Managing Director.) **LONDON, S.W.**

The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

Sheffield.—In connection with this branch, a well-attended open meeting and concert was held in the Meersbrook Vestry Hall, on Monday night, April 10th. The Birmingham Central Secretary (Mr. C. L. Kay) attended, and ably expounded the objects of the League to an appreciative audience. The gentlemen who contributed to the musical part of the programme, which was a decided success, included Messrs. W. J. Parker, who rendered an excellent pianoforte solo, and also sang a humorous song; L. M. Gillespie, who was responsible for a couple of songs, in which he accompanied himself; J. Laing, in "The Garden of Sleep" and "Songs of Araby"; E. H. Froggatt, in an imitation of Eugene Stratton singing "The Lily of Laguna"; and E. W. Thomas, who gave a fine rendering of the "John Bull League Song." A resolution was passed approving of the objects of the League. Mr. T. J. Lalor was in the chair.

After the open meeting, a meeting of the Local Executive Committee was held, when, at the suggestion of Mr. C. L. Kay (who occupied the chair), the committee and officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months. The late committee was again elected *en bloc*. Dr. R. H. Wilson was appointed chairman of the branch, with Mr. Mosley as vice-chairman, and Mr. Allen as treasurer. A resolution was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the city should be divided into five sections, each consisting of a Parliamentary division, and that each division should be worked by a district secretary, who should be empowered to select a district chairman and committee, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. It was also arranged that each district secretary should be subordinate to the central secretary, and that all correspondence and the management of the branch should be done through or by the central secretary. Mr. T. J. Lee was appointed to this position, and the district secretaries were elected as follows:—Attercliffe, Mr. W. H. Chapman; Brightside, Mr. T. J. Lalor; Central, Mr. T. J. Lee; Ecclesall, Mr. Vernon Allen; Hallam, Mr. E. H. Froggatt. Messrs. Laing, Haseltine and Crawshaw were elected as members of the Executive Committee. It is hoped that this new plan of campaign will add considerably to the strength of the branch, and challenges have already been thrown out by some of the district secretaries as to which district will have the strongest membership by the end of the year.

Dundee.—There was an excellent attendance at the open meeting held by this branch at the Masonic Hall, Rankin's Court, on Wednesday, April 12th, the proceedings being characterised by much enthusiasm. Several important items of business were transacted, including the appointment of Mr. Alexander Carr as vice-chairman, and the election of Finance and Executive Committees. The Local Chairman (Councillor R. M. Noble) delivered an address dealing principally with local affairs, which was much appreciated, and it is gratifying to report that a considerable number of new members were enrolled.

Manchester.—The attention of members is particularly called to the announcement on the first page of the concert to be held in the Marble Hall, Albion Hotel, Piccadilly, on Friday, the 28th inst. This will wind up a highly successful winter session, and, as the best talent has been secured, a very enjoyable evening may be looked forward to. A limited number of complimentary tickets may be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. F. Wardle, of 5, Woodland Road, Gorton.

Bristol.—A public meeting was held in the Ford Memorial Hall, Bedminster, on Wednesday, April 12th, Mr. M. Waldron presiding. The proceedings were opened by the singing of the League Song by Mr. F. J. Weekes, who was heartily encored. The Chairman briefly outlined the objects of the meeting, and then called upon Mr. B. G. Brown to deliver an address on the "Objects and Aims of the League." His speech was listened to with great attention, and was received with hearty applause. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. A. T. Tookey was elected hon. secretary for the South Bristol district.

Leeds.—A public meeting and concert was held on Wednesday, April 12th, at the Mechanics' Institute, Hunslet, when a large audience listened to a splendid concert, at which Mr. Fred Bucknall, Mr. Walter Fieldhouse, Mr. Harry Burley, Mr. H. E. Holmes, and Mr. A. D. Wynn appeared. Mr. W. B. Russell, the chairman of the Leeds branch, presided in the absence of Mr. J. Spurr, and gave an address on the "Objects and Aims of the League," which was well received, especially his observations on local affairs. Mr. W. Tebbs, who has identified himself with the effort of the League in municipal affairs, also spoke, and gave several examples of mismanagement on the part of the authorities in Leeds, due to the Party system. Mrs. R. Clark ably officiated at the piano, and many new members were secured.

JOHN BULL'S Companion Journals are **MRS. BULL**, published Tuesdays, and **LOTINGA'S WEEKLY**, published Wednesdays.

BRITISH & BEST

That thick, lasting, "Erasmic" lather!—how it soothes the skin—how it helps the razor.

"The Soap that suits your skin."

Trial Sample for 2d. Stamps. Money back if not satisfied. THE ERASMIC CO., LTD. (Dept. K.), WARRINGTON.

Erasmic SHAVING STICK

For Men of Taste.

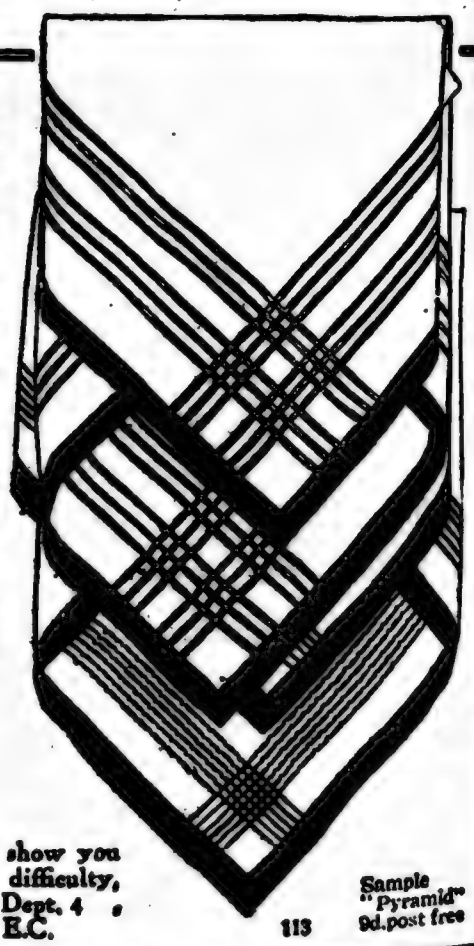
Durable and distinctive handkerchiefs for gentlemen. The exclusive border Colourings are found only in 'Pyramids. and are guaranteed indelible.

"We agree to give you, free of all cost, half-a-dozen Pyramid handkerchiefs for every one you send to us that has lost its colour in the laundry."

Also made in ALL-WHITE designs.

9D. each

HALF DOZEN 4/3



Ask your Outfitter to show you the patterns: if any difficulty, write to PYRAMID, Dept. 4, 132 Cheapside, London, E.C.

113

Sample "Pyramid" 9d. post free

PYRAMID HANDKERCHIEFS

DR. MACAURA'S ANSWER TO THE PUBLIC.

I am quite unable to reply to the enormous number of letters now arriving daily.

I am therefore using this method of answering the public's questions.

In nine cases out of ten these questions relate to my lately improved methods of manufacturing the Pulsocon and treating patients.

Yes; the new Pulsocon will be practically the same as the present one. The only difference lies in the process of manufacture. A new and far cheaper method of manufacture has been discovered.

This, coupled with the present enormous output, enables me to reduce the price to the public by 15/-

But why ask? You can have the present machine at the reduced price (35/-) as long as the supply lasts. The necessary changes are being made to turn out the new machine, but it will take a little while to produce. Meanwhile, I am giving the public the advantage of the reduction—viz., supplying the present 50/- machine at 35/-

I am still giving the free trial treatments to all who apply at Pembroke Hall, 133, Oxford Street, W.

I am giving my written, as well as personal, Instruction, Advice—everything free except the machine, and you can have a treatment without feeling that you are under any obligation to procure a Pulsocon.

I am still inviting all chronic sufferers (as classified in my Book of Health) to come to Pembroke Hall and try the instrument free of all cost. I know that when a person has tried it the result will prove highly satisfactory.

There is nothing so convincing as a trial of the Pulsocon, so please don't waste time in writing, but try the machine for yourself. You will be the best judge as to its value.

I have built my present reputation on free trial treatment.

A certain curative institution stated recently that they did not give free trial treatment. A wise course if one is not in a position to produce results on the spot, as I do. On the other hand, if one can do good work at once, and allows the public to test it and prove the genuineness of it, he is bound to succeed. This is what I have done. I have gone ahead of all known systems by leaps and bounds because I can afford to say to the public: Come and test it for yourselves. Ten or fifteen minutes' application of the Pulsocon means more than any amount of argument.

I accepted Mr. Stead's Challenge on this basis—not only to produce results at once, but also to cure permanently the patients he brought forward as test cases.

Am I making good my claim? Three of Mr. Stead's Patients are cured absolutely. They write saying that further treatment at Pembroke Hall is unnecessary. All the others, with the exception of one, are well on the way to a complete cure, and even the one exception is wonderfully improved. Not a bad report from so-called incurables! I have their letters. You can see them if you wish.

Yes; I am still supplying the course of prescribed home treatment to distant sufferers, free of charge. I said I would prescribe for 5,000, and I am doing so. The 5,000 prescriptions are going fast.

Of course. I am giving a private course of treatment to those who desire it, and although the machine is simple to use, and can be used at home successfully, still the results of treatment and instruction by my skilled operators are so great—so rapid—that, wherever possible, I always advise the chronic sufferers to have a short course of treatment here under my personal supervision.

No; I am not sending out instruction books. I have found that the special prescription for each individual case is giving far greater results—more than I had dared to expect.

Please remember to enclose postage when sending for the Book of Health. I send it free if you pay postage 2d.

The hours at Pembroke Hall are still the same, 10 to 6 daily; Saturdays, 10 to 4.

No; there are no fees charged or machines supplied at the free Hospital which I have opened at 300, Queen's Road, New Cross Gate, S.E.

This Institution is strictly for the benefit of the very poor people. The Hospital is run entirely at my expense, and is under the management of the Rev. Charles E. Few, Vicar of Seal.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Is "Government by Guillotine" a "capital" idea?
Isn't the Copyright Bill a long-standing debt?
Didn't Mr. McKenna get it in the "I"?
Isn't *dis*-affection more in Keir Hardie's line?
Was the Exeter result an "odd" one?
Is Stamford Street to be rechristened because it has a bad name?
Is the Cromwell affair a case of "head" or "tale"?
Won't there be a rush to pay Income-tax next year?
Is the petrol tax an imposition?
Don't we want a Business education in our elementary schools?
Will the Railway Clerks' Weekly Rest Bill be "booked through"?
If burglary is an epidemic, why don't the police catch it?

Lieutenant Brandon is again in the papers. The Germans have got him in a fortress, but they can't "shut him up."

Printer's Pie was a winner at Nottingham. The animal was evidently in "forme."

It is suggested that a fleet of aeroplanes should greet the King at Westminster Abbey on Coronation Day. A high compliment.

Mr. J. Swinburne, who says "The piano is a very imperfect instrument," evidently lives next door to one.

A Russian woman is petitioning for divorce because her husband shot her high heels off. Lowered her standing, in fact.

The headline, "Coffin of Dynamite," suggests that the future occupant wanted to make sure of going "up."

"Will the harem skirt prevail?" asks a contemporary. How can it, when even the wearers sit on it?

The women who spent the night on Wimbledon Common in order to evade the Census, certainly selected an "out of the way" spot.

"Funniest Trial in History," is how the Camorra proceedings strike a morning paper. The accused, however, have so far failed to see the joke.

"History Made to Order," we read. Nothing new.

In a Yarmouth church the "Hallelujah Chorus" was rendered by a gramophone. More mechanical worship.

Judge Rentoul's suggestion that deported aliens should be branded is described by interested parties as a burning shame.

"Baby Mine," at the Criterion, has reached its fiftieth performance. It looks like being a howling success.

To give a man a bad dinner is unsportsmanlike; it is hitting him below the belt.

"The world pays big prices to the men who know," says Thomas Edison. But bigger to those "in" the know.

The Royal Automobile Club is endowing a bed at the Middlesex Hospital. A move in the right direction.

Bonaparte won a race at Alexandra Park. Did anyone "Nap" it?

"Boy who Lived in a Tree," reads a heading. Plenty of men live more or less "up" one.

"Photography is the greatest liar on earth," says Prof. Andrew McWilliam. Yes, especially those "speaking likenesses."

Rooks have built a nest on a telephone pole at Dover. We hope they won't "tap" the wires.

Two chairs have been sold for £1,000 each. But a seat at Westminste frequently costs more.

Twenty-four burglaries have taken place at one church. They wan more church-"wardens" there.

"There are three sexes—men, women and politicians," says Dr. Helena Jones. What about the Suffragettes?

"Otter at Acton," said a headline during the recent Arctic spell. The inhabitants would have preferred the aspirate to the animal.

A man with a double heart, an advertisement stated, offers to sell it for scientific purposes after death. But it may be stolen during lifetime.

The Street Performers' Concert, organised by the *Mirror*, was so successful that we understand some of the players will soon be on the road—to fortune.

THE "JOHN BULL" BIOSCOPE.

A series of Bioscope views, depicting how John Bull and *Mrs. Bull* are produced, is being shown in various towns and cities on the cinematograph of the "John Bull Entertainments." To-day (Thursday) the car will be in Robertsbridge; Friday, Ticehurst; Saturday, Wadhurst; Monday, Tunbridge Wells; Tuesday, Groombridge; Wednesday, East Grinstead; and readers and their friends in the districts should not fail to see these well-known periodicals "in the making."

A Brilliant Author.

Brain Fag, Lassitude, Neuralgia.

It is the *grip of the dominant mind*, the mind that never rests until it effects its purpose, which gives Dr. Ramsay Colles such a hold on public interest. This brilliant author declares it is entirely owing to the energising stimulus of Phosferine that he is enabled to continue his activities to a successful conclusion. Alike with other celebrities, Dr. Ramsay Colles is convinced *the continuous energy* imparted by Phosferine *develops mental and bodily powers to their fullest capacity*, of which fact there is proof enough in the robust force and vigorous power of his work. Testimony of this high character shows how the man with abilities can obtain the energy to better his condition, for the many commanding intellectual distinctions attained by Dr. Ramsay Colles are a guarantee Phosferine is the most potent nerve specific his wide experience can discover.

Entirely Prevented.

Dr. Ramsay Colles, M.A., LL.D., J.P., &c., writes: "After a lapse of eight years I am again writing to express my profound appreciation of the energising properties of Phosferine. No matter how comfortably one may be situated, the hard and sustained brainwork of an author brings on brain-fag, lassitude, or neuralgia, and I am conscious that it is entirely owing to Phosferine that I escape these distresses. Happily the success of my recent book, 'In Castle and Courthouse,' is a tribute to the unflagging energy and concentration which Phosferine enabled me to apply to my literary labours. Often enough the crushing fatigue and disastrous exhaustion of prolonged brainwork deprive an author of his reward. In all my experience, Phosferine is a perfect safeguard against such ill-effects; indeed, it is so intensely energising that any danger of impoverished nerve force is entirely prevented."—Authors' Club, February, 1911

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE ROYAL TONIC.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family	H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia	H.M. The King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Roumania	The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

A FREE FASHION GUIDE EVERY MAN SHOULD SEE BEFORE ORDERING ANOTHER SUIT.

—:o:—

Every Style that will be Fashionable This Year Shown in Large Plate Engravings.

—:o:—

A Fashion Guide every man should see before ordering another suit of clothes has just been published.

Readers of JOHN BULL may obtain a copy of this useful work free of charge by writing to or calling at any of the addresses given below.

"Fashions for Men" is an absolute necessity for every man who wishes to dress well at moderate cost. It tells you how to dress in the best-tailored clothes in London at half the usual cost. It tells you how to get in future two suits for the price you have hitherto paid for one, or one suit for half the price.

These suits are not ready-made clothes. They are made to your exact measure and cut by the finest tailor in London. They are cheap in price but not cheap in appearance. Wear them and you will be dressed in that distinguished style which marks the West End clubman.

Yet they will cost you less money than the price charged by a small and inferior suburban or provincial tailor.

"Fashions for Men" is published by Messrs. G. W. Rosenberg (The Rego Clothiers, Ltd.), of 122, Cheapside, E.C., and 19 other addresses in London.

The new issue is a special "Coronation Number."

Do not think of ordering your new suit or suits before getting this Magazine. As "Fashions for Men" explains, there are a far greater number of fashion changes in West End tailoring this year than usual. These changes must be embodied in your new clothes if you are to dress as well as, or better than, your friends and those around you.

Amongst the contents of this Magazine are the following:—

The Latest Developments in Masculine Attire.
The Changes in 1911 Lounge Suits.
The Frock Coat and the Morning Coat.
The New Suit that is being Worn.
The Growing Popularity of Breeches.
Minor Changes in Men's Tailoring.
Economy in Clothes.
The Selection and Care of Trousers.
An Inexpensive Trouser Press.
The "Rego-Hyde-Park" 3-button Lounge (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Westminster" 4-button Lounge (*illustrated*).
Why Men Need to be Well-Dressed (*illustrated*).
How to Fold Trousers, Coats and Waistcoats.
The "Rego-Balmoral" Sports Coat (*illustrated*).
The "Rego" Riding, Cycling and Walking Breeches (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Washington" American Lounge (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Hurlingham" 3-button Reefer (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Brighton" 2-button Reefer (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Burlington" 4-button Reefer (*illustrated*).
Clothes of Fit and Finish.
The "Rego-Henley" Up-River-Suit (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Wimbledon" Mackintosh (*illustrated*).
How to Choose Your Suits.
Why "Rego" Clothes Possess Such Style.
Useful Clothes Hints for Men.
The new "Regoette" Rain-Coat (*illus*).
Your Light Spring Overcoat.
How do other People See You? (*illus*).
The "Rego-Knightsbridge" Spring and Summer Overcoat (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Savoy" Frock Coat (*illus*).
Style and Comfort in Clothing.
The Ugliness of Ready-Made Clothes.
Special Features That Make "Rego" Suits last long (*illustrated*).
Pockets That Cannot Sag (*illustrated*).
A Waistcoat Novelty (*illustrated*).
Why Coats Lose Shape (*illustrated*).
The "Rego" Coat-Collar (*illustrated*).
Seven Striking Styles of Cuffs and Gauntlets Supplied with "Rego" 1911 Clothing (*illustrated*).
The "Rego-Piccadilly" Morning Suit (*illustrated*).
The 20 "Rego" Fashion Centres of London (*illustrated*).
Where You Can Get the Most Stylish Clothing at the Lowest Prices.
Two Suits for the Price of One.
The Making of "Rego" Clothes (*illustrated*).
The "Rego" Guarantee.
How You Can Obtain the "Rego" Clothes by Post.
£1,000 Challenge to the World.

"Fashions for Men" contains over 60 illustrations, including 14 magnificent full-page plates of the latest styles.

The 20 London "Rego" tailoring centres where copies of this magazine can be obtained have been literally besieged by enquirers anxious to get this splendid Fashion Guide.

The whole edition of 150,000 copies is almost exhausted.

If you want a copy for yourself, call at once—or write to Dept. M., 122, Cheapside, London, E.C., if you cannot call—and obtain a copy of this magnificent magazine of Masculine Modes absolutely Free (or it will be sent gratis and post free to any address in the British Isles).

Here are the 20 London centres to which application for free copies of "Fashions for Men" must be made:—

122, Cheapside, E.C. (the Centre for Well Dressing City Men).

LONDON, E.C., 19&20, Aldgate.
LONDON, N., 691, Holloway Road.
LONDON, N., 265, Pentonville Road.
KING'S CROSS, 40, Caledonian Road.
BRIXTON, S.W., 18, Atlantic Road.
HAMMERSMITH, W., 109, King Street.
PUTNEY, S.W., 31, High Street.
RICHMOND, S.W., 40, George Street.
PECKHAM, S.E., 100, Rye Lane.
LONDON, W.C. 280, High Holborn.
LONDON, W., 288, Edgware Road.
FINSBURY PARK, 259, Seven Sisters' Road.
CAMDEN TOWN, N.W., 183, High Street.
DEPTFORD, S.E., 3, Broadway.
WALHAM GREEN, S.W., 14, The Broadway.
BALHAM, S.W., 103, High Road.
KINGSTON, 24, Clarence Street.
ILFORD, 58, Broadway.
CLAPHAM JUNCTION, 27, St. John's Road, S.W.

G. W. ROSENBERG, The Rego Clothiers, Ltd.

WONDERFUL

3 Days' Conqueror

DRINK HABIT

I averaged to drink a quart of whisky every 24 hours; and beer, etc., additionally. For 18 years I kept it up, and was regarded as a hopeless case.

While drifting from bad to worse, as all slaves of King Alcohol do, I unexpectedly found a true cure. It was (and is) geniune. It saved my life. My health was quickly restored. I became and am a respectable man, enjoying every benefit of freedom from the accursed alcohol. I speedily and naturally lost all desire for drink. I took less and less, I began to prefer tea, coffee, and other non-alcoholic liquids; the craving for liquor ceased, I could sleep perfectly, my stomach became well, and I recovered from other ailments which I now know were due to my indulgence in strong drink. I was cured in only three days. By fortunate circumstances I learned the True Method of genuine cure for alcoholism (drink habit) with or without the drinker's knowledge. My Treatment is by far the best in the world, is endorsed by physicians and legions of testimonials. I will send you ample proof.

ALCOHOLISM ERADICATED

Are you a Drinker? Do you wish to cure yourself? If so, here's my hand, my warmest sympathy, and my positive assurance that within seventy-two hours after you obtain my remedies you will be better satisfied with yourself than ever in your life. You will not be sick during my three Days' Treatment; you need lose no time; nobody will know what has caused you to give up beer for ever unless you choose to tell. You can enter public-houses, or even pour out whisky without feeling the slightest temptation. You will be cured to stay cured. Think of what you waste in money, think of how your life is being shortened. Get rid of the craving for ever. Be a man among men. You can do wonderful work if not drinking. My A. treatment will cure you.

GET THE GENUINE CURE

Do you want to cure someone who is near and dear to you? Then my treatment is what you should get. Do not be misled by what seems to be cheaper, but what is absolutely valueless, and means a waste of time as well as money. Do not imagine that because some advertised remedy cured just one woman's husband, it is universally reliable. Consider how many cases it has cured. Read the Testimonials. If you have made the mistake of buying something which has done or is doing no good, abandon it and get the true method, which cures in seventy-two hours by the clock.

The Woods' Method is known the world over: it is being endorsed and recommended everywhere. Why? Because it is the most successful and most inexpensive, genuine treatment that exists.

ABSOLUTELY FREE

I will send you my book, in plain wrapper, promptly, post paid. It tells of my own career and the wonderful discovery, and gives valuable advice. No other book like it. I especially appeal to those who have wasted money on treatments or remedies which have no satisfactory effect. Mention whether person is willing to be cured or if you need to cure him of drink habit without his knowledge.

EDWARD J. WOODS, 10, Norfolk St. (30M), Strand, W.C.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The Editor *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.

FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of PUTTING OUR READERS INTO COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER. *If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.*

Mr. Claude Lumley, solicitor, of 130, Strand, in thanking us for publishing the announcement regarding the petition for the reprieve of his client, Stinie Morrison, also tenders his thanks to the thousands of our readers who called, wrote and telegraphed for forms for signature.

J. E. (Carlisle).—We thought the boxes as well as "*England's Glory*" *matches* were made abroad. "Protectionists" will have their little jokes.

J. C. (Girvan).—We should advise you to give the *coupon system* of trading a wide berth.

E. J. W. (Canning Town) wants employers to exclude foreigners from their service. Why not have a special tax on *foreign employees?*

E. L. (West Ham).—We are not anxious to encourage the consumption of "*English Champagne.*" How could there be such a thing?

"Max" (Nairn).—We'd have a holiday in May if we were you.

C. J. (Springford).—By all means *paint pictures* out of John Bull and sell them if you can. But you will remember to mention their origin, won't you?

"One Who Would Like to Now" asks why grocers and provision shops are selected as *sub-post offices* in spite of their smell. The Post Office probably has to take what it can get.

G. G. (Harwich) says that the duty on *sailors' tobacco* has not been increased, but that perhaps tobacco has gone up in price.

S. A. C. has had a misunderstanding with Messrs. O'Brien, *patent fuel manufacturers*, of Liverpool, but it is impossible for us to pronounce upon the merits of the case without constituting ourselves a judge and jury all rolled into one.

"Parishioner" (Stinchcombe).—We would have taken the matter up if you had trusted us with your *name and address.*

M. S. N. (Cambridge).—It would be rather a tall order to expect us to *guarantee* every article advertised in our paper.

J. H. E. (Tottenham) writes:

> He who takes what isn't his'n
> Will have a *good time when he goes to pris'n.*

But there is not yet any very general desire to take advantage of this form of public entertainment.

W. H. D. (Belfast) wants us to bring in a Bill for the protection of unmarried women and girls, all *married men* being compelled under heavy penalties to wear a "novelty on their thumbs." But surely the remedy would be worse than the disease.

"Winner" (Bolton).—Should like to; a prize would the expenses pay.

F. W. G. (Worcester).—It was certainly cool of the Consul-General for France to inform you that he had received a *judicial document from the Law Courts of Dieppe* and to offer to send it you by registered post on receipt of 3d. It may, of course, have announced a legacy, but on the other hand it may only have been a writ. What do you think? You ought to know.

"A Former Hacknevite" (Twickenham) complains of the *London United Tramway Company's* treatment of their employees, and says that some men are often kept in reserve from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and then not needed, receiving no pay whatever for their trouble; also that the time before the men succeed in getting a regular service is often between two-and-a-half and three years. We have had similar complaints of other tramway companies.

"A Southampton Reader" writes at great length about *Jonah and the whale*, and thinks the whale was a white shark some 30 feet in length and voracious enough to swallow horses, sea-calves as big as oxen and hornless reindeer whole, not to mention a man in a coat of mail. So now we know all about it.

W. L. M. (Chichester) thinks Dr. Cook was not telling the truth when he said that moving picture machine operators had their heads hooded in black, for they do not use cloths like ordinary photographers.

F. H. (Abergavenny) scolds us about our open postcard to the Rev. M. McKenzie, of Aberdeen, and *thinks we have some secret reason for disliking Scotsmen* intensely and regarding them as a species of semi-savage. He assures us that "they sometimes think of other things than attending the kirk on the Sabbath and accumulating bawbees during the week." As a matter of fact, we admire some Scotsmen very much, particularly when they sing Auld Lang Syne and invite us to crush a cup of kindness.

L. O. (Balham) answered an advertisement for drapery assistant and shop-walker and received a request for 7s. 6d. from the *Yorkshire Emporium*, 9, Oxford Row, Leeds.

(*Continued on page* 654.

A COOL SMOKE

You can smoke as many pipes of Bond of Union tobacco as you like in a day and the last is as **cool** as the first.

Medium.....5d. an oz.
Mild.....5½d. "
Pipe Charges, 5½d. per packet.

COPE'S

Bond of Union

NEVER BITES THE TONGUE.

FOUNDED 1877.

The Provident Association of London, Limited,

PROVIDENT HOUSE, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.

(Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 1910, to transact all kinds of Assurance business).

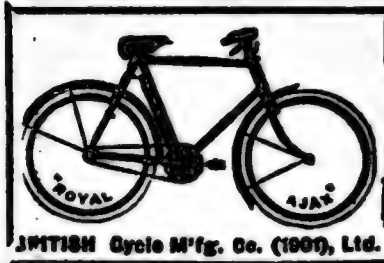
LOWEST RATES FOR LIFE ASSURANCE.
BEST ANNUITY RATES.

Invested Funds exceed

FOUR MILLIONS.

Full particulars on application.

W. W. BENHAM, J. J. GREEN, } *Joint Managers.*



ROYAL AJAX

Established 25 Years.
From 6/- Per Month.
OR SECOND-HAND
£2 10s. Cash.

LISTS POST FREE.

BRITISH Cycle M'fg. Co. (1901), Ltd. (Dept. A), 1 & 3, Berry St., LIVERPOOL

TENDER FEET!

Corns, Bunions, Wet, Perspiring and Inflamed Feet prevented and cured by wearing Dr. HOGYES SOCKS made of impregnated asbestos. Pair in any size sent post free for 7d. Better and more effective quality 1s. and 2s. GET A PAIR TO-DAY!!

Descriptive Pamphlet Free.

DR. HOGYES SOCK Co. (Dept. O), 19, Artillery St., London, E.C.

SUFFERERS FROM CANCER,

Ulcers, Piles, Lupus, Gallstones, and all kindred ailments arising from impurities of the blood, should write to-day for FREE BOOK "Cancer and Its Cure." Stroopal is the best blood purifier in the world. Address "STROOPAL, '14, Windsor Lodge Hartfield Road, Wimb'edon.

ROMANO'S

399, STRAND.

The Paradise of all good gourmets.

Why your Children MUST HAVE

Quaker Oats

The growing child needs the five following vital food-elements to build up body and brain.

1. Protcid—the muscle maker.
2. Organic phosphorus — the brain-builder.
3. Lecithin—the nerve-nourisher.
4. Carbohydrates - the energy-giver.
5. Mineral salts—preservers of the teeth.

These five vital food-elements are found in highest proportion in Quaker Oats. Scientific analysis is proof.

By reason of special milling, Quaker Oats—unlike ordinary oats—does not overheat the blood.

Remember—Quaker Oats is sold only in sealed packets, which protects you from inferior food and the food from dust, loss of flavour, etc.

9

Skin Deep Beauty.

It is not always the best looking watch that gives the greatest satisfaction. A smart looking case does not necessarily mean Time-keeping Quality. Accuracy and Reliability of movement or works, and the reputation of its makers should have first consideration.

The discriminating buyer has a way of looking deeper than the outward finish of a watch. He is not misled merely by pretty outward appearance.

Over 23,000 discriminating buyers have tried and tested

Ingersoll Watches

and have found them exactly as represented by the makers—The most practical, economical and perfect watch that a crown will buy.

Now, if you are ready for a cheap watch, and believe that 5/- entitles you to a reliable timekeeper, be sure to ask for an Ingersoll, and look for name on dial and guarantee in back of case. They are there for *your* protection.

CROWN 5/-

New Eclipse	6/6
Junior	8/6
Midget	9/6

The Jewelled Ingersoll-Trenton *watch offers the same security and saving to the buyer in high-grade watches that the Ingersoll does in the low-priced class. They are sold only by Jewellers. Prices from 21/- upwards. Send for our Booklet "How to Choose a Watch." It is FREE.*

INGERSOLLS ARE SOLD BY OVER 12,000 BRITISH DEALERS.

Robt. H. Ingersoll & Bro., 353 Audrey House, Ely Place, London, E.C.

INGERSOLL WATCHES

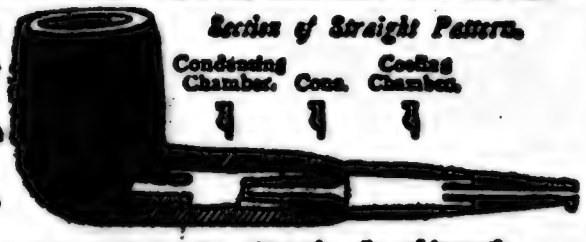
153

Is your Pipe ALL you could wish?

Doesn't it sometimes burn your tongue? Doesn't it sometimes fill your mouth with ill-tasting moisture. The

"MASTA" PIPE

cannot burn your tongue, *cannot* fill your mouth or the pipe-bowl with moisture or nicotine. The "Masta" patent prevents all that. Everybody can enjoy a "Masta" even if they cannot smoke an ordinary pipe.



No parts to get out of order. Cleaned easily and instantly. Obtainable of all leading tobacconists. Price 7/6, 4/-, 2/6, 2/-, &c. Cheaper quality, 1/-. Write to-day for free booklet, "Points on Pipes." Full of useful hints.

MASTA PIPE CO. (Dept. 9) 131 FLEET ST., LONDON, E.C.

THE

TURVEY CURE

FOR DRINK AND DRUG HABITS.

The Turvey Treatment, which is now universally recognised as the most successful method for the Home Treatment of Alcoholism and the Drug Habit, can be taken at the patient's own home without interference with the ordinary routine of daily life.

MR. THOMAS HOLMES, the well-known mission worker and writer, says:—"I soon saw the beneficious effects of the Turvey Treatment—their physical condition rapidly improved—they became bright and hopeful, in fact new men."

MR. LABOUCHERE in *TRUTH* states:—"The Treatment has had really good results."

MR. W. T. STEAD says:—"It gives a man a fresh start."

LORD ROBERTS writes:—"Much interested in the case of the Sergeant-Major as showing the efficacy of the Turvey Treatment."

The Turvey Treatment can be sent to any part of the country or abroad.

Call, write, or 'phone for Consultation Sheet and particulars, Secretary, Turvey Treatment Association, 47a, Maddox Street, New Bond Street, W.

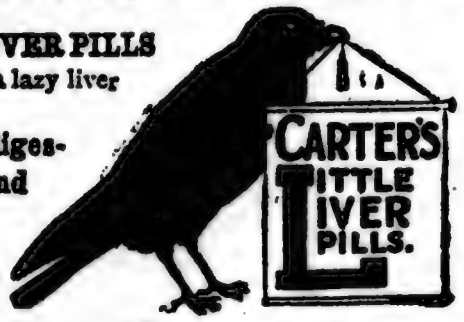
Telephone: 3406 Mayfair. Telegrams: "Turvert, London."

Make the Liver Do its Duty

Nine times in ten when the liver is right the stomach and bowels are right.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS gently but firmly compel a lazy liver to do its duty.

Cure Constipation, Indigestion, Sick Headache, and Distress after Eating.



SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE
SMALL PRICE.

GENUINE must bear signature *Brent Good*

FARROW'S BANK LTD.

(Incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies' Acts).

THE PEOPLE'S BANK.

Authorised Share Capital - £500,000

Deposit and Thrift Accounts.

Three to five per cent. interest paid.

Illustrated Booklet Free.

HEAD OFFICE—

1, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM.

Mrs. S. D. (Upper Norwood) wants a biscuit for the "Household Brigade Magazine" for saying that "the bride made *a silent speech*." But we have the authority of Disraeli for the fact that "silence is often more eloquent than speech."

C. S. (Ludlow).—To London we would hie away at once.

An anonymous correspondent reports that *Father Vaughan* has been speaking on "race suicide," which is rather cool on the part of a celibate priest.

F. B. (Plymouth) considers *Co-operative stores* to be "purely Socialism." We should have thought they were precisely the reverse.

C. W. S. (South Kensington) found *two posters* side by side. One was our own with "The Shirking of Fatherhood" and the other had "£50 Offered for Triplets." The triplets in question appear to be the desire of a contemporary, but the coincidence was amusing.

H. O. (London, N.W.) complains of the *tricks of canvassers* who claim to represent a firm "of London and Manchester," but give no more precise address. They offer about £10 of goods for a sovereign to be paid on delivery. Then they extract 6s. for a dress length and 14 yards of silk trimming. They will even leave their "only sample" and then procure more from a comrade round the corner. But you see their face no more.

C. F. J. (Romsey) sends us a vehement protest against the way in which she has been treated by "so-called Christians." Her little boy started a fire in the cellar, and she found the house full of smoke. Then, she says, "it was only natural that I should get my two children out, but I was turned in the street in bitter cold rain, my things such as I possessed turned all out. Neither me or my baby has been well since. My poor face with neuralgia has almost driven me mad." We are very sorry for her, but she must try to *teach her offspring not to play with fire.*

"Thirst for Knowledge" (Highgate) was walking with her young man in the *Alexandra Palace grounds* one evening. They stood a little while against a fence talking. An official came and told them to move on. This certainly sounds high-handed, unless they were talking cabinet secrets.

X. Y. (Boston).—If you write him House of Commons we're sure there would not be delay in setting it right.

G. T. is living in a remote part of Wales and complains that the registrar of the district will learn her private affairs from the *census paper*. She specially objects to stating how many children she has had and exclaims, "Surely they could let the dead rest?" Now we will give the census a rest for a decade.

F. W. (Leytonstone) sent 6s. to the *Makers' Alliance*, 164, Strand, for a pair of postman's boots and thinks he had "better sell them for old rubbish." They evidently won't sell like old boots.

"Natty" (Sutton-on-Hull) complains of the fee-snatching *Commercial Advance Company*. We have never quite understood why prospective *borrowers pay fees in advance*. It is reversing the natural order of things, seeing that it is the moneylender's business to lend money. However, we congratulate "Natty" on having gone to a solicitor and succeeded in extracting his 10s. 6d. These rogues do not often disgorge.

In our issue of March 25th, we published a disclaimer from Mr. George Price (commission agent, Brighton) who said he had nothing to do with *George Price, of Flushing*. But J. T. (Woking) says he was swindled by the Flushing man and then received several communications from Brighton. What price the long arm of coincidence?

A correspondent says that many employees at the Balloon Factory at *Farnborough* are annoyed by a recent notice prohibiting anyone from crossing the *Common*. Why not organise the natives and test the right of way?

"Sans Souci" (Fulham) complains of *Messrs. Collins and Collins*, employment agents, 42, Essex Street, Strand. We congratulate him on the optimism of his pen-name.

W. B. (Southampton) complains of *Jack Hart, bookmaker, Flushing*. But the Dutch are clearing all those gentry out.

"Constant Reader" (Clydebank) exposes the impudence of *Herbert Rose, Commission Agent, Flushing*, who fails to pay up and persistently begs his clients to go on betting.

J. E. T. C. (Lewisham) noticed an advertisement of J. Z. Paulhac, 3, Denman Street, W., offering *free samples of cigarettes*, and received the following reply: "I do not send free samples of cigarettes, but beg to enclose my price list." What says Paulhac?

S. A. C. (Southfields) was travelling by the *District Railway* the other day with a pet monkey inside his coat. One of the collectors at East Putney tore open his coat and demanded 3d. for a "dog ticket." He says he is not hard up for 3d., but objects to be roughly handled. Why not write to the company and complain?

"Victim" (Dunoon).—Were there no rogues, the world would then indeed look gay, but there are a few left.

A. H. B. (Bayswater) quotes the *Bishop of London* as saying that "if he thought God cared for one section of the community and not for the other, he would throw up his appointment to-morrow." We agree that this sounds almost like a menace.

W. K. (Edinburgh) says that the *Waverley Studios*, 264, Renfrew Street, Glasgow, disclaim authority for canvassers who practise the portrait enlargement trick in their name.

A. B. (Caledonian Road) asks if we think that *disorderly interruptions* ought to have been allowed *at the Euston Music Hall*. Probably the management would have been very glad to stop them if it could.

"Faithful Reader" (Bargoed) inquires about the *Metropolitan Advertising and Despatching Agency*, 30, Salisbury Road, N.W., who offer home employment to people who entrust them with 1s. 3d.

M. S. (*Wolverhampton*) wants to know why no balance-sheet was issued for the *Charity Carnival* there last August Bank Holiday week.

"Audi alteram partem" (Venezuela) says *turtles are not nailed down to the decks* of ships, but are put in pens and taken care of by members of the crew. He says no captain would allow turtles to be nailed to the deck, as the deck would be damaged. He offers a present of "a baby turtle" to anyone who can prove the allegation. What particular turtle is that?

G. L., Junr. (Millwall), informs E. H. H. (Sandown) that *David Fernie's business* has been taken over by the *Paris Model Co.*, 150, Oxford Street, who intend to supply the goods which were ordered from him. This requires confirmation.

E. W. (Levenshulme) complains of Hennan and Hepworth, Bradford Street, Bolton, a dental firm who advertise for canvassers at £1 a week and 10 per cent. commission, but pay no wages for less than £20 or £30 worth of orders. This sounds like a *trick for getting people to work for nothing*. Victims ought to combine to take the matter into Court.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]

Nothing Succeeds like Success.

A CERTAIN INCOME FROM THE TURF.

Why not make your Turf Investments profitable by adopting FRANK TURNER'S Reliable System? My Reliable System has stood the test of the last five years and Success is brought about by application of Commercial Methods to Turf Investments.

I am not a Tipster, but have attained my present unique position as a successful Turf Expert by my many years' close association with racing, both as a successful Owner and Commission Agent, and consequently able to impart first-hand reliable information which, worked in conjunction with my System, cannot fail to produce a

"CERTAIN INCOME."

For One Guinea details of my reliable System will be sent and will include the first Five Wires

Is it worth it? Many hundreds of my clients can testify as to this, for after having thrown money away for years, they are now reaping a sound, regular income by following my System and Wires.

You can start at once, and with any capital from £2 to £36 and be absolutely certain of

"MAKING RACING PAY."

Why then delay? There can be no doubt about my "bona-fides." I am not here to-day and gone to-morrow, but have proved my statements for the last five years and am doing so week by week, which can be proved by undeniable evidence.

If you are interested in the Turf why not make your investments profitable? It costs only £1 1s. for particulars of my System and Five Wires.

ONE TRIAL WILL INSURE YOUR BECOMING A REGULAR CLIENT.

Sound judgment, years of experience and the application of sound commercial principles to the Turf has placed my method of business beyond reproach.

I hold out no exaggerated silly promises, only guarantee the above statements, and the fact that my System has stood a five years' test should be sufficient for men of sense.

MAKE YOUR RACING PAY.

All communications to be sent to:—

FRANK TURNER,

Telephone No. 3291 City. **249, High Holborn, LONDON, W.C.** Tel. Address: "Reinvest, London."

Triumph
CYCLES AND MOTORS
Are built with the most painstaking care and skill, yet they cost no more than machines produced by cheap and oftentimes female labour.
Art Catalogues post free.
Cycles from £6 17 6 to £12
Motor Cycles from £48 15s.
Dep. S. TRIUMPH CYCLE CO., LTD. COVENTRY.
London. Manchester. Leeds. Glasgow.

J. McLAUCHLAN,

Estab. 19 years. { Turf Accountant, etc., FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

Write for Price List, Rules, Ready-reckoner, etc.
FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY.
CREDIT ACCOUNTS:—Write 12, Princes Street, Edinburgh.
TELEGRAMS:—"Gallop," Edinburgh.

The RUFUS WEBB

Middelburg Totalisator, Middelburg, Holland.

Just a few Rufus Webb Tote Prices: Lister Jim, 4 vens; Jersey Belle 25/2; Irish King 11/1; Perleona 22/2; King Midas 6/1; Zephaniah 17.1; Lord Roberts 28/1; Rosy Glass 17 1; Saints Douche 3 1/2; Sandwort 33/1.

SEND TO-DAY FOR BOOK OF RULES
A PENNY POSTCARD WILL DO.
THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS OFFERED.
"JOHN BULL" says: "Better Prices and Money Safe if you win."

FREE POSTAGE. FREE POSTAGE.

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

The oldest established Reliable Sporting Accountants in the World.

Send 1d. for the most liberal Price List issued.

£10 FREE OFFER OPEN TO ALL CLIENTS.

H. GREEN (MEMBER OF PRINCIPAL SPORTING BODIES.)

ACME HOUSE, COLCHESTER (Est. 1887). ONLY credit business. "City"; "Derby." Sp. Life London prices guaranteed if wired before 11 a.m. FLAT Limit: Ante-post 66/1, others 20/1.

JUNON Aromatic BATH MUSTARD

Adds *zest* to the bath. Adds a piquancy, a deliciousness, that is delightfully refreshing and invigorating. Imparts a delicate perfume to the skin. Softens the hardest water. Has a tonic effect on the nerves and circulation. Prevents chill after violent exercise or exposure to inclement weather.

For Wet or Aching Feet

Soak the feet for 20 minutes in a footbath containing water as hot as can be borne, with a proportion of JUNON Aromatic Bath Mustard added. Add hot water from time to time to maintain the temperature.

1/6, 2/6 & 3/6 a box

JUNON Hair TONIC

Restores gloss and brilliancy—stops hair falling—nourishes and strengthens the roots—removes dandruff—positively makes the hair grow—is a beneficial and pleasant dressing for daily use.

Recommended for use in conjunction with JUNON Hair Stains. Two kinds: Greasy for dry and brittle hair; Non-greasy for greasy hair.

Post **1/- & 2/6** Free

Securely packed in plain package.

JUNON Hair STAIN

This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

In Eight Standard Shades:—Black, Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Chestnut, Golden Chestnut, Light Golden Chestnut, Golden, Light Golden.

Post **1/- & 2/9** Free

Securely packed in plain package.

Sole Manufacturers—
JUNON Ltd., 57, Marsham St., Westminster, S.W.
J. E. & Co.

To H.M. THE KING.

"Black & White" Whisky

Jas. Buchanan & Co., Ltd.,
Glasgow & London.

RILEY'S BILLIARD TABLES.

Made in sizes to fit any room, yet so scientifically designed and built that, no matter what the size, the game played on each table is the correct full-size table game. You can have a seven day's free trial at our expense. Riley's Miniature Billiard Tables to fit on your own dining table from £3/7 6. The 6ft 4in. size. £5/5 0 is suitable for most rooms. RILEY'S Combined Billiard and Dining Tables from £13/10/0 to £24/10,0. Prices include all accessories, carriage paid to nearest railway station.

Cash or easy payments.

FREE on receipt of post card. full detailed Illustrated Catalogue of Billiard and Dining Tables.

E. J. Riley, Ltd., Crown Billiard Works, Accrington.
London Showrooms, 147, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

Vigorous Vitality & Sturdy Strength
Just as the Oak's sturdy strength enables it to defy the battering of the elements; so the vigorous vitality and *reserve strength* that "Wincarnis" creates will enable *you* to easily withstand the attacks of illness, epidemics and disease.
Over 10,000 Doctors recommend "Wincarnis" because they *know* that it gives new life to the invalid—renewed strength to the weak—increased vigour to the brain-worker—and a wealth of health to everyone. Will *you* try just one bottle?
TEST "WINCARNIS" FREE
If you would like to "try before you buy," to prove its health-creative virtues for yourself—
SEND THIS COUPON TO-DAY.
COLEMAN & CO., LTD.
W 31 Wincarnis Works, Norwich.
Please send me a free bottle of "Wincarnis." I enclose three penny stamps to pay carriage.
NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
"John Bull," April 22/11.....
WINCARNIS

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

(" *Larry Lynx* " *of* The People, " *Double U. L.*" *of* Lotinga's Weekly, *and* " *Magpie* " *of* The Globe.)

Medley.

Rowing is almost the only sport in which there is no gate, so that the contestants in sculling matches have to depend upon their own stakes, for there is rarely any betting.

" A nice toy " is the term jocularly applied to any animal that is a bad bargain as a racehorse.

Who is the leading nobleman and owner of horses here who figures in the unpaid forfeit list in South Africa for a substantial sum?

We hardly realise what the luck in the order of running really means to a backer, and especially towards the week-end.

Not Fit for Present Needs.

I wonder, in these enlightened days, that the very old-time, primitive method of declaring that the winner has passed the scale is not done away with—allusion being made to the shouting " All right " by an employé of the executive, although in the rings quite an unauthorised (although customary) personage fulfils this duty, upon which thousands of pounds are paid out. Supposing a hoax were got up, or a false declaration, by some unauthorised person were made? We have reached the age when the matter calls for proper attention, so that, as at Sandown, Kempton, or several other metropolitan venues, a proper pre-arranged signal to announce the " all right " is adhered to. Yet the old method of carrying it out is still in vogue at many important race meetings.

Prophetic.

The second half of a big week, Juliet II. should win the Trial Plate to-day (Thursday) at Esher, where Sydmonton spoils the Esher Cup, and

Anchora

must go close in the Twickenham Handicap. On his last form, Chieveley is well in the Prince Albert Handicap on Friday, whilst the best day's sport is Saturday's jumping. Soliman's Way, Carsey, and especially

Bouton Rouge,

should take their races, and, according to what they have done in the interim at Manchester, Mount Prospect's Fortune and Bedgrove would share the Steeplechase.

DAVID BRAY 21, BREWER STREET, W. (only London Address) and at FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

NO LIMIT. Place Betting One Third the Odds Five Runners when Favourite Starts Odds On.

THE SPORTSMAN'S TURF ACCOUNTANT.

WRITE TO-DAY FOR BOOK OF RULES, POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

WHITE FISHER & CO.,

MIDDELBURG, HOLLAND,

Are still the World's Premier Sporting Accountants.

Bankers: Barclay & Co. and Wibaut's, Flushing.

Betting by Letter a Speciality.

Books now open on the City and Suburban and Jubilee.

FRED ALF

GOLL & BIRCHALL

The well-known Liverpool Sportsmen.

FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

SEND POSTCARD (1d.) FOR RULES.

NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.

The principals may be seen at all principal meetings.

THE FIRM WHOM YOU ALL KNOW.

CREDIT ACCOUNTS OPENED ON APPROVED REFERENCE

Apply, Crossley Buildings, South Castle Street, Liverpool.

THE OPEN ROAD.

A REMARKABLE BOOK on "SYSTEMS," written by a retired Signalman. This handsomely illustrated Book will show you how you may avoid Turf losses. It will prove to you the advantages of Systematic investments. How the writer in the long night hour in the Signal Box discovered a System which has won him a fortune. It will not only show you how this fortune has been made, but will show you how you may do the same. No need for you to delay. The Book is free for stamped address.

Write now to "PLAYFAIR," Radford Rd. Leamington Spa

TRUTH, April 27th, 1910, says:—

" . . . I have never had any reason to doubt his readiness and ability to meet his engagements."

BERT FRY, FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

DONT OPEN A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT UNLESS CONVENIENT.

Send 1s. up to £2, and your commissions are executed at S.P. if post-marked before 1 p.m. DAY OF RACE. NO LIMIT. PLACE BETTING 1, 2, if only five runners. PLACE BETTING whether odds on favourite or not.

WIRE, WRITE, OR PHONE YOUR COMMISSIONS TO

PAUL COVERDALE

(Sole Proprietor—CHARLES VILLIERS CHAPMAN),

NO LIMIT **TURF ACCOUNTANT.** NO COMMISSION

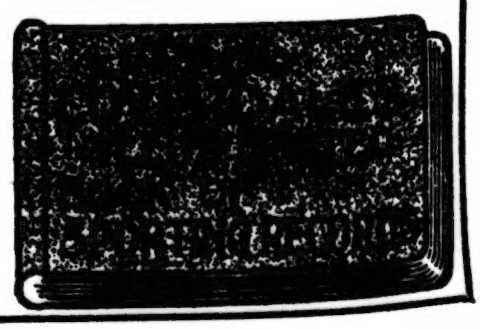
"One of the largest operators of the present day."—*Vide* The Press.

DOUBLE EVENTS A SPECIALTY.

Special facilities for the despatch of Commissions. Letters with Commissions posted up to 12 o'clock on morning of race are accepted.

BOOKS NOW OPEN ON { KEMPTON JUBILEE / THE DERBY. | BEST MARKET PRICES. | Motto: "PRIVACY."

Write for my illustrated **BOOK OF SPORTING RECORDS FOR 1911**, the most interesting Guide and Record on Sporting Matters ever offered to the public. Also my terms for Daily and Weekly Credit Accounts to my sole address:



24-26, Maddox Street, LONDON, W.

Telegrams: "Repayable, London." Telephones: 890 Mayfair (10 Lines).

NO CONTINENTAL ADDRESS OR AGENTS.

EVERYONE CAN START AT ONCE WITH A CAPITAL OF ONLY £3!

The Turf affords a most desirable and highly remunerative class of Investments, the many advantages of which are meeting with ever-increasing public recognition. Turf Investments prove consistently successful, but it is imperative that every transaction be based upon a sound and adequate theory of Investment and that there be a perfectly efficient adaptation of the means of Investment to the definite end in view—Remuneration. The culminating points of up-to-date specialisation and all-round efficiency, as applied to the business of Turf Investment, are reached in

ALLEN'S DAILY SYSTEM WIRES

ISSUED ONLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH

Allen's Celebrated Method of Investment!

(Copyright. Entered Stationers' Hall.)

MY SYSTEM WIRES ARE THE SERIOUS SPORTSMAN'S IDEAL POSSESSION !!!

THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE DAILY SYSTEM WIRES, SOME YEARS AGO, MARKED AN EPOCH IN TURF INVESTMENT BUSINESS!!!

Turf Investments on New Rational and Paying Lines Suited to the Million!!!

My Daily System Wires enable everyone to adopt this most popular mode of investment with an absolute assurance of success!!!

A SOUND MONEY-MAKING PROPOSITION!

Combined with the highest degree of remunerativeness and the highest frequency of successes which the Turf is capable of affording to the investor. I offer you an absolutely sound, safe, and convenient basis of operations, an expert, competent service of advice, and especially, please note, an explicit assurance of success, which takes the form of a deliberate guarantee that I will enable you, by means of my "Daily System Wires," to create for yourself a Regular Income from the Turf.

YOU CAN MAKE RACING PAY!!!

Positively as soon as you open business with me, your profits become assured. Every one of the many resources of my great business is devoted to the one definite object, namely, the creation of consistently recurring profits for each single one of my clients. My clients all make Racing pay! So also can you. When you regulate your investments according to my Daily System Wires, you ensure the progressive accumulation of your profits, and preclude every possibility of encountering disappointment. Apart from a trained discrimination, a perfect and unerring knowledge of the conditions of Turf Investment, a thorough grasp of the minutest facts in connection with Racing investments—apart from influential standing, authentic intelligence, specialisation, and the most accurate adaptation of means to an end—apart from adequate expert knowledge of the whole subject, and from tested formulated principles embodying the practical wisdom and the accumulated experience of years—apart, in fact, from a professional aspect of the whole matter, you will certainly **not** make racing pay!!! But as a client of "Allen's Daily System Wire" Service, you will be, from the very outset, proceeding on a

PRE-EMINENTLY SURE PRINCIPLE

of investment adapted to your very requirements, legitimately justifying your extreme confidence at every point, and inevitably resulting in the one definitely proposed end—the acquisition of a constantly recurring profit. My Daily Service is the

INDISPENSABLY REQUISITE, SAFE BASIS

of your permanently assured success!!!

£3,650

per annum, made by many clients!!

THE "TURF" & "ALLEN'S SYSTEM WIRES" COMBINED CONSTITUTE A MOST SOUND, PRUDENT & REMUNERATIVE PROPOSITION, APPEALING STRONGLY TO EVERY KEEN SPORTSMAN, CAPITALIST, INVESTOR, & TO EVERY KEEN BUSINESS MAN; ENSURING ONE & ALL A FAIR & OPEN MARKET, & BRINGING WITHIN THE REACH OF EVERYONE DAILY, EASY, SAFE & PROFITABLE INVESTMENT, YIELDING A MOST LIBERAL REMUNERATION, AFFORDING IMMENSE SCOPE FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF PRACTICALLY AN INFINITESSIMAL CAPITAL & ELIMINATING THE PURELY SPECULATIVE ELEMENT—THUS ABSOLUTELY CONSTITUTING AN IDEAL DESIDERATUM FOR EVERY KEEN MONEY MAKER!

A VITAL DISTINCTION!!!

My great business is totally unique! My "Daily System Wires" must not be confused with what is ordinarily understood by "information." I have the most exclusive and authentic information at all times, certainly, but that is **one-half** only of the nature of my business. My clients include the most influential and distinguished patrons of the Turf, and many leading capitalists, etc., who **will** insist upon the most exclusive intelligence, the very latest and positively correct information being instantly supplied to them! But my business constitutes

A TOTALLY UNPRECEDENTED DEVELOPMENT

as well, in connection with Racing! I have spared no expense, no effort and study, to attain perfection in the organisation of a great department, regulating the mode of investment of each single one of my clients, in such a manner as to ensure unqualified success. For me Racing is, in addition to being the greatest of our sports, a field of operations in which the investor, on certain definite lines projected by me, may reap a golden harvest throughout the year. Years of observation and study of analyses, comparison, and of minute, laborious investigation, has fitted me to formulate a sound theory of investment, the benefits of which have now, for many consecutive seasons, met with spontaneous and conclusive approval from thousands of my clients, and the press and public at large. My business constitutes the first and only adequate up-to-date effort (crowned with phenomenal success!) to place Turf investment upon a secure and remunerative foundation, and to meet the particular requirements of thousands of large and small investors by the institution of a comprehensive daily service of systematised investment advice

EQUAL TO EVERY POSSIBLE EMERGENCY

and combining the advantages of select and exclusive daily information with invincible methods of procedure. My consistency in the selection of winners at very liberal prices is well-known to be without parallel, and my services to clients in respect of efficient systematic guidance are

INDISPUTABLY THE CAUSES OF PERMANENT SUCCESS

relative to their daily transactions!

I AM THE ACKNOWLEDGED LEADING AUTHORITY ON TURF INVESTMENT BUSINESS, AND MY GREAT REPUTATION CONFIRMS THE SUPREMACY OF MY SERVICE OF ADVICE.

A Regular Income Assured.

As soon as you open business with me, I am under a plain obligation to assure you a Regular Income, or to return your money in full. It is only for you to decide how much capital you will employ. Possibly you would first like to make a trial with just a few pounds only! Thousands of my clients started with only £3 capital!!! You can do the same! One moment's attention every day is all **you** need to give, after you have decided what amount of capital you will employ. I undertake to make your capital **productive.**

Day by day my Daily System Wires regulate your procedure in every respect. I am continually in touch with your requirements. I comprehend your exact position at any given moment. I devise your success step by step. The greatest possible protection is given to you against exposure of your capital to risk, and your invidivual account receives expert unintermittent attention, so that no opportunity can be lost which will add to the winning balance in your favour. I instruct you daily, and my advice is most comprehensive. You are never left in obscurity or doubt. Your fortunes are never jeopardised, your capital is conserved and protected, your operations proceed by regular methodical degrees onwards, and from the start you begin to experience the inestimable advantages which accrue from a business-like, methodical conduct of your investments!

YOU CAN START WITH ONLY £3 CAPITAL!!!

and whatever the amount of capital you decide upon may be, I aussre you a regular income or will

RETURN YOUR PAYMENTS IN FULL!!!

without charging you even for telegraphic expenses, and, in fact, without any deductions whatever

UNIMPEACHABLE & PRE-EMINENT RELIABILITY!

FREE!

THE

GREAT 'ALLEN' BOOK

This immensely popular, invaluable, supplementary descriptive Book is a convincing statement of the whole case of Turf investment business as conducted

PRODIGIOUSLY SUCCESSFUL

by means of Allen's System Wires.

This instructive book affords a full account of my unique business, and contains—

MANY CONVINCING PROOFS,
INVALUABLE PUBLIC TESTIMONY,
PRESS RECOMMENDATIONS,
EXPLANATIONS & DEMONSTRATIONS,
STATISTICS, &

A LONG RECORD OF FULFILMENT

for your examination. It proves beyond the possibility of doubt how

ASTONISHING AND UNVARYING

is my consistency in the selection of winners, and also contains my complete

LIST OF SELECTIONS FOR 1909 & 1910,

with results appended. The book is full of the

UNCHALLENGEABLE LOGIC OF FACTS!!!

It will be sent you FREE, in a PLAIN, SEALED ENVELOPE. Write your name and address, and the words, "JOHN BULL" on a postcard, and send for it to-day.

THIS BOOK IS A STEPPING-STONE TO MONEY!

WRITE FOR MY GREAT FREE BOOK TO-DAY AND COMMENCE MAKING MONEY ON SOUND AND CONVENIENT LINES!!!

Phone: No 15227 Central. **C. ALLEN,** *Tel: "Reglincom London."*

Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, London, W.C.

"IMITATION *IS* THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY."

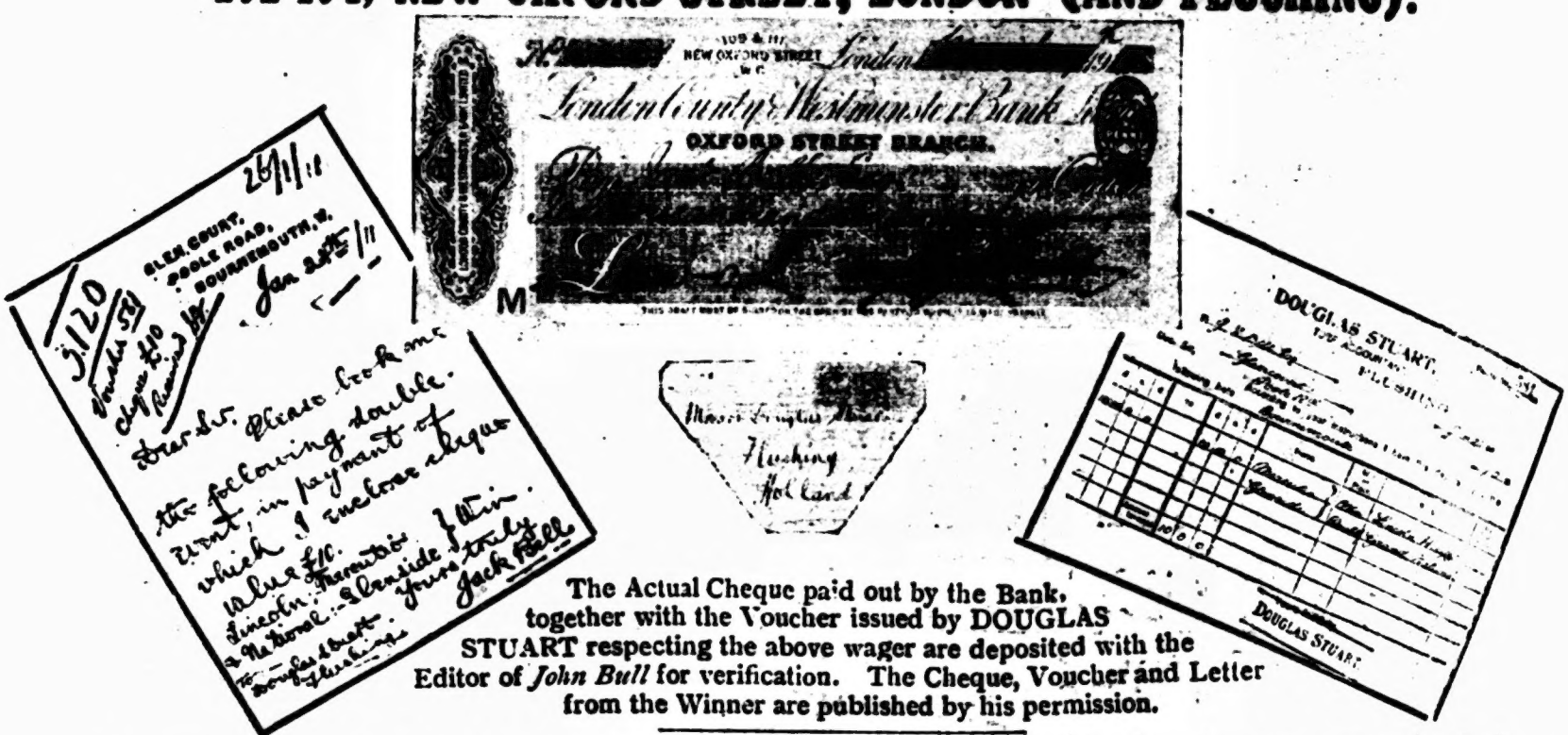
THE CHEQUE OF THE SEASON.

Ten Thousand to Ten

PAID BY

Douglas Stuart

102-104, NEW OXFORD STREET, LONDON (AND FLUSHING).



The Actual Cheque paid out by the Bank, together with the Voucher issued by DOUGLAS STUART respecting the above wager are deposited with the Editor of *John Bull* for verification. The Cheque, Voucher and Letter from the Winner are published by his permission.

This record cheque will doubly secure Douglas Stuart's title as "By far the Greatest and Most Reliable Turf Accountant in the Kingdom.

CREDIT ACCOUNTS.

Write to-day, stating your requirements, to New Oxford Street, London.
Most Liberal Terms in the World. Strict Privacy. Absolute Reliability.

DEPOSITS ANY AMOUNT.

Do not HESITATE, but send to FLUSHING, Holland, and do your Regular Daily Business with the firm which paid out £10,000 to £10 immediately on demand.

Market Price Guaranteed. Fullest London Prices, Future Events,
NO LIMIT. Starting Price, Win, or Place, even if favourite starts odds on.

What you WIN you will GET, even if £10,000 or £100,000. Douglas Stuart has not thought it necessary to state his "Bank Balance" in public, but a Win of £10,000 paid immediately "ON DEMAND," speaks for itself.

"John Bull":—"You are SAFE in the hands of Douglas Stuart, Flushing: he will pay you without fuss."

Printed and Published for the Proprietors (John Bull, Ltd.) by ODHAMS LIMITED, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.
Agents for South Africa: Central News Agency, Ltd.
Applications for Advertisement Space in "JOHN BULL" must be made to Messrs. ODHAMS LIMITED (Advertisement Department), 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C. Telephone: Gerrard 2595.